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# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIX, No. 61

Section 1

December 11, 1935

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION Establishment of a Graduate School of Public Administration at Harvard University, through a gift of \$2,000,000 from Lucius Littauer, glove manufacturer and former representative in Congress, was announced at Cambridge, Mass., yesterday by President Conant. (New York Times.)

AYRES ON BUSINESS Col. Leonard P. Ayres, business statistician and vice president of the Cleveland Trust Company, said yesterday that 1935 had been "by far the best of the three recovery years of the depression" and predicted "modest progress" along the recovery trail for 1936. "If we are ever again to have a real recovery and a real prosperity," Colonel Ayres said, "it must come through a large-scale business revival in the durable goods industries." (A.P.)

NATIONAL HOUSING Because of a November spurt in home modernization and repairs, Housing Administration officials announced yesterday that total business done under the national housing act has passed the half billion dollar mark. They previously had not hoped to attain this goal until next spring. In addition to this figure, another \$1,150,000,000 worth of home modernization, repair and replacement work is estimated to have been stimulated by the Housing Administration. (Press.)

WAGE EARNERS' LIVING COSTS The cost of living of wage earners in the United States again advanced, according to the National Industrial Conference Board, increasing 0.5 percent from October to November. The most substantial increase was noted in food prices. In November of this year living costs had risen 4.3 percent over their level of November 1934 and 17.9 percent over the low of April 1933, but they were 16.5 percent lower than in November 1929. (Press.)

LAND BOND SUBSCRIPTION The \$100,000,000 issue of 3 percent bonds of the federal land banks offered to the investing public yesterday was heavily oversubscribed in New York by 10.45 a.m., according to an announcement by W. I. Myers, governor of the Farm Credit Administration. (New York Times.)

Canadian Trade Pact "...The lower American duties on a range of livestock, lumber, fish, potatoes, turnips and some other agricultural products will be of outstanding advantage to Canadian primary producers," says the Country Guide (Winnipeg) (December) in an editorial, "while lower duties on agricultural implements, automobiles and out-of-season fruit and vegetables will reduce production and living costs throughout Canada. Lower customs duties on many other items in the tariff schedule, both American and Canadian, will have a still further effect of increasing trade. Improvement in trade means a corresponding improvement in employment and an increased purchasing power on the part of the employed. The net effect of improvement in trade is widely beneficial. Detailed provisions in the agreement provide for meeting practically every emergency that may arise and for which amendments may be made. There seems to be a reasonable likelihood that it may last out its 3-year term...Naturally there is going to be opposition to the agreement. Every time the tariff is raised or lowered it affects some business or person or community favorably or unfavorably. Already considerable opposition has been voiced in the United States and some has arisen in Canada. It may be necessary to make certain alterations as the effect of the new tariffs becomes more fully understood. The general welfare of the nation, however, must have first consideration and the development of better trade relations between these two countries must in the long run be for the greatest good to the greatest number."

Drugs in Breads Raymond Hertwig, secretary, committee on foods, American Medical Association, is author of "What-Next Breads" in the December 4 issue of Northwestern Miller (an address before the American Association of Cereal Chemists). It says in part: "The use of drugs in breads is not only inexcusable but is to be condemned as a menace to health. Drugs have no place in foods. The use of dried rhubarb in bread recently has been proposed. Rhubarb contains a physiologically active ingredient, emodin. If the addition of rhubarb causes a laxative action then the bread is a drug; if it does not, the addition, in effect, is misleading, for there would be no reason to add the rhubarb if it does not have medicinal effect. The amount of bread consumed daily varies widely with different persons and from day to day with any individual. It is difficult to imagine a more irrational method of administering a drug... Two other species of the bread family are mineral and vitamin breads. The so-called mineral breads apparently are fortified chiefly with calcium compounds. The main vitamin breads contain vitamin D, although B fortified breads are appearing also. Two distinct viewpoints may be taken with respect to these special breads: first, the public will profit best by learning or being instructed how to choose a well-balance optimum diet from common natural market foods...second, if adequate calcium, vitamins B and D, or any other nutritional essentials are not readily accessible to the public, or can be more economically provided by fortification of bread, there is good argument why bread merits consideration for fortification with such lacking essentials...It is expected that the committee on foods will publish its judgment on these questions in the near future..."

Economic Articles      The American Economic Review (quarterly) contains in the December issue the following articles: Commons on Institutional Economics, by Wesley C. Mitchell, Columbia University; Time Deposits and Price Stability, 1922-1928, by Lawrence W. Towle, Lawrence College; The Banking Act of 1935, by Frederick A. Bradford, Lehigh University; The Revenue Act of 1935, by Roy G. Blakey and Gladys C. Blakey, University of Minnesota; Malthusianism in Late Eighteenth Century America, by J. J. Spengler, Duke University; Tractor Versus Horse as a Source of Farm Power, by Naum Jasny.

Chlorine Research      "The announcement that the coming year will see produced for the first time on a commercial scale chlorine without caustic is interesting from many points of view," says an editorial in Industrial and Engineering Chemistry (December). "What impresses us most is that it furnishes another in the long list of examples of how far-reaching is the result of research, particularly when it is pursued concurrently along paths which cross in unexpected places. It has been known since about 1834 that chlorine could be liberated from sodium chloride if treated with nitric acid, and a number of ways have been suggested for completely recovering, not only the chlorine, but the nitric oxide for the regeneration of the nitric acid. Until recent years, the demand for caustic being generally greater than that for chlorine, the idea was largely of academic interest and besides really cheap nitric acid was required. Things began to happen. It was learned how to fix atmospheric nitrogen and how to oxidize the ammonia directly to nitric acid...At last we had cheap nitric acid. Concurrently, other research was in progress looking to the formation of a long list of new chemical compounds, in the manufacture of which chlorine was a very necessary reagent, not to mention the increasing use of chlorine in sanitation, in bleaching, and in a number of other directions. The chlorine came to be more desired than caustic, and while the sale of the by-product, sodium nitrate, from the process of producing chlorine without caustic may present some sales difficulties in view of the world nitrogen situation, it at least does not add to the excess caustic supply and has advantages of its own. It is just another one of those instances where research makes its lasting impress upon industries seldom taken into consideration when the program of work is planned..."

Sheep Business Improves      "That reliable barometer of the sheep business--ram sale prices--continues to point in the direction that makes growers smile," says O. A. Fitzgerald, agricultural editor, University of Idaho, in Country Gentleman (December). "At the twentieth national ram sale at Salt Lake City, 1,362 rams brought an average of \$38.25. This is the best sale, both from interest and price standpoint, since 1,691 rams went through the ring for an average of \$39.39 in 1930. Every ram brought into the ring at Salt Lake found a buyer, without resort to that old standby of dull sales--the reserve bid entered by consignor. The situation and outlook were so encouraging that the executive committee of the association decided to expand the 1936 sale to allow consignment of 2,000 rams...Lamb markets have been good...Sec. J. B. Wilson of the Wyoming Wool Growers Association reported a 'booming' feeder lamb market in that region."

Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

December 10--Livestock at Chicago (Closing Quotations): Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice 9.25-13.75; cows good 6.00-7.00; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice 8.00-11.25; vealers good and choice 9.00-11.00; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good and choice 7.25-8.50. Hogs: 160-200 lbs good and choice 9.45-9.90; 200-250 lbs good and choice 9.65-9.90; 250-350 lbs good and choice 9.60-9.90; slaughter pigs 100-140 lbs good and choice 9.25-9.60. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down 10.15-11.35; feeding lambs range stock good and choice 9.50-10.25.

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap.  $120\frac{3}{4}$ - $122\frac{3}{4}$ ; No. 2 D.No. Spr.\*Minneap.  $116\frac{3}{4}$ - $118\frac{3}{4}$ ; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap.  $95\frac{1}{4}$ - $99\frac{1}{4}$ ; No. 1 Durum, Duluth,  $103\frac{1}{4}$ - $114\frac{1}{4}$ ; No. 2 Hard Winter\*K.C.  $106\frac{1}{4}$ - $108\frac{1}{2}$ ; Chi.  $107\frac{1}{2}$ - $116\frac{1}{4}$ ; St. Louis  $107\frac{1}{2}$  (Nom); No. 2 S.R.Wr. St. Louis 102 (Nom); No. 1 W.Wh. Portland  $79\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 48-49; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 62-64; No. 3 yellow, Chi.  $57\frac{1}{4}$ - $59\frac{1}{2}$ ; St. Louis 59-60 (Nom); No. 3 white oats, Minneap.  $25\frac{1}{4}$ - $26\frac{1}{4}$ ; K.C. 26-27; Chi. 26- $28\frac{1}{2}$ ; St. Louis  $29\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 1 malting barley, Minneap. 64-66; No. 3 good malting, Minneap. 50-58; No. 2, Minneap. 38-39; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap.  $176\frac{1}{2}$ - $187\frac{1}{2}$ .

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.55-\$1.85 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.15 f.o.b. Presque Isle. New York sacked Round Whites \$1.55 in Baltimore. Idaho Russet Burbanks \$1.75-\$1.77 $\frac{1}{2}$  carlot sales in Chicago. New York Yellow Varieties of onions brought \$1-\$1.15 per 50-pound sack in city markets; \$1.05-\$1.10 f.o.b. Rochester. Midwestern stock 75¢-\$1.05 in consuming centers. New York Danish type cabbage \$22 bulk per ton in New York; \$15-\$16 f.o.b. Rochester. South Carolina Pointed type \$1.50-\$1.75 per  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -bushel hamper in New York. Texas Round type \$1.40-\$1.50 per half-lettuce crate in Chicago; \$1-\$1.15 f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley Points. Eastern Shore Virginia Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1.50-\$1.75 per stave barrel in New York. Delaware and Maryland stock 85¢-\$1.15 per bushel basket in eastern markets. Tennessee Nancy Halls 80¢-90¢ in the Middle West. New York, U.S. #1,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inch minimum, McIntosh apples \$1.25-\$1.50 per bushel basket in New York; Baldwins 85¢-\$1 and Rhode Island Greenings \$1-\$1.25.

Average price of Middling  $7/8$  inch cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 1 point from the previous close to 11.79 cents per pound. On the same day last year, the price was 12.61 cents. December futures contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 3 points to 11.66 cents; and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 3 points to 11.73 cents.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score,  $32\frac{1}{2}$  cents; 91 Score, 32 cents; 90 Score,  $31\frac{3}{4}$  cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: S.Daisies,  $18\frac{3}{4}$ -19 cents; Y.Americas,  $18\frac{3}{4}$ - $19\frac{1}{4}$  cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 33-34 cents; Standards, 31-32 cents; Firsts, 29 cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.

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Vol. LIX, No. 62

Section 1

December 12, 1935

## FARM BUREAU FEDERATION PROPOSALS

The American Farm Bureau Federation approves and will defend the agricultural adjustment act, it was established at Chicago yesterday when 17 resolutions were adopted at the closing session of the annual meeting. The delegates indicated approval of the intimation given in speeches by President Roosevelt and Secretary Wallace. The farm bureau delegates offered no criticism of the AAA, but asked that its administration be simplified and that the adjustment contracts between the government and the farmers be worked out on a farm unit basis, instead of on a basis of farm commodities. (New York Times.)

## TO CLOSE 389 CCC CAMPS

Plans for closing 389 Civilian Conservation Corps camps by the end of December were reported to President Roosevelt yesterday by Robert Fechner, director of the CCC. There are now 2,427 camps. Mr. Fechner said that none of those enlisted would be discharged, but that no vacancies would be filled. The administration intends to reduce CCC enrollment to 300,000 for a permanent basis beginning July 1. (A.P.)

## DAIRY FORAGE RESEARCH

An attempt figuratively to move summer's verdant pastures into University of Wisconsin dairy barns so that rich "summer milk" can be produced in the dead of winter is being made at the College of Agriculture, says the Associated Press. The first objective of the research workers is the preservation of summer forage during the winter. Prof. A. Virtanen of Helsingfors, Finland, made a long advance toward this objective. Under the Virtanen process silage is treated with a mineral acid mixture which tends to "freeze" the cells of microorganisms. The Wisconsin research contemplates the use of molasses for the production of acidity, and seeks to overcome the disadvantages of labor and equipment costs and unpalatability.

## CHILE-PERU TRADE PACT

A Santiago (Chile) cable to the New York Times says the government newspaper Nacion denied yesterday that under the new Chile-Peru trade agreement this country would act as a "middleman" between Peru and Argentina, as charged by the Argentine press. As a result of the trade treaty and alleged favoritism to Chile, Argentina recently raised the duty on Peruvian oil, and Peru retaliated by raising the tariff on Argentine wheat.

**Virus Disease of Tomatoes** "The number of virus diseases of plants increases at a really astonishing rate," says Nature (London) for November 23. "Fifteen years ago, the well-authenticated virus diseases might have been enumerated without using two figures, but now they occur in hundreds. Dr. Kenneth Smith, of the Potato Virus Research Station, Cambridge, announces the discovery of three new virus diseases of the tomato (J. Roy. Hort. Soc., 60, 448-451, Oct. 1935). One malady causes cessation of growth, yellowing and purpling of the lower leaves and malformation of the whole plant. The second is referred to as the 'distorting virus' and justifies its title by causing severe malformation of the leaves. Many fine leaflets appear instead of the usual well-favoured foliage and the terminal leaflet frequently becomes a tendril. Symptoms of the mosaic type distinguish the third disease, which, however, differs slightly from the ordinary tomato mosaic by producing a greyness upon the leaf, with bandings of yellow and green. The two latter diseases may have been brought to Great Britain by the importation of smoking tobacco."

**Magic Milk** "Up to the present chemists have regarded cellulose as a vital material for clothing," says an editorial in the Industrial Chemist (London) for November. "When our ladies have tired of linen and cotton, when they no longer have faith in anything they see in print, we have by viscose and acetate processes turned cellulose into shimmering silk. Now there comes a rival material, for Italy is to produce wool from milk. 'Drink more milk' has been the cry of marketing campaigns; but if this Italian process is no bluff, if they are not trying to pull wool over our eyes, then the slogan will have to be 'Wear more wool'! For years we have used casein for combs, brush backs, etc., as a silk-weighting agent, for dressing cotton--but never for dressing ourselves. Italy has been known to have dabbled in Sniafil, an artificial wool. Is it possible that she has modified the plastic process and made fibers from milk? An old Italian saying has it that woollen clothing keeps the skin healthy, while our ladies immerse the skin in milk for a like purpose--why not combine the two? It chemistry has advanced thus, we shall have to modify our sayings. You cannot make a silk purse out of a sow's ear, runs the proverb; but we shall make a woollen vest out of cow's milk, which is equally as good."

**Edible Soybeans** T. O. Graham, of Morden, Manitoba, in a short article on edible soybeans in the Country Guide (Winnipeg) for December, says that "most of the soybean strains grown experimentally in the (United) States are late in reaching maturity. Finding this slow maturity to be a decided drawback in Canadian culture, T. F. Ritchie, gardening expert for the Canadian Government, obtained varieties from that cold region known as Central Manchuria. These strains are now being carefully tested at Ottawa and some are almost sure to be of value. Outside of his Manchurian material, Mr. Ritchie has had ten other early-maturing varieties tested at Morden. Of these ten strains, a variety known as Early Black Eye has been the most promising..."

Civil Service      The Civil Service Commission announces the following  
Examinations      unassembled examinations: senior chemist (distillation)  
                     \$4,600; senior animal husbandman (genetics) \$4,600. Ap-  
plications to be on file by January 6, 1936.

From Tools      "The machine for making simultaneous tests of several  
to Machines      soil samples which is described in this issue of Engineering  
                     News-Record (Machine Tests Four Soil Loadings at Once) marks  
a concluding step in developing aids for the soils laboratory worker," says  
an editorial in the December 5 issue. "It represents the progress in in-  
vention from single tools to machines that perform group operations. The  
advance has not been an easy one and that it has been so rapid is a credit  
to the soils physicist, whose systematic study of the reactions of soil  
to stress began scarcely 15 years ago...The laboratory worker became of  
necessity a toolmaker and he produced a tool at a time as the need developed.  
The following step taken by the Harvard soil physicists has been to produce  
a machine to do the work simultaneously of several tools and so reduce labor  
and increase output. It is an application in the testing laboratory of the  
inventive processes responsible for mass production in the factory and is  
the more timely because in the work of the engineer today every additional  
item of substantiated information on the behavior of soils under load is  
needed for practical information."

New Type      "A new type of barn will be put on the market (in  
of Barn      Canada) that has some interesting features," says The Far-  
                     mer (Toronto) for December. "It consists of a stable with  
no storage loft, in which the stock is housed, and two or more large,  
circular storage tanks or silos, in which all the roughage is stored. One  
of these tanks may be used as an ordinary silo for the storage of silage  
crops. The other contains a ventilation shaft in the center and around  
the outside wall, with the rest of the space used for the storage of cut  
hay, put in green from the field, or containing as high as 30 percent of  
moisture. The ventilating shaft in the center is perforated and permits  
air drawn in from the outside at the bottom to circulate through the stored  
hay and dry out the moisture. This type of barn has been developed in the  
United States to reduce time and loss of leaves in harvesting the hay crop  
and to remove the hazard of fire and wind storms in the old type of barn  
where dry feed is stored in the big hay loft above the stable. The hay is  
run through the silage cutter and blown into the hay silo as it comes from  
the field and fed in the adjoining stable just as silage is now handled."

Rayon Output      The United States will not be alone in establishing a  
at Record      new high record output of rayon yarn and fiber for 1935, as  
                     England, Japan and Italy, other important producing coun-  
tries, also will establish new records, according to the Textile Economics  
Bureau. Japanese production of rayon for the ten months ended October 1935  
show an increase of 45 percent compared with the corresponding 1934 period.  
Italian production totaled 84,749,000 pounds for the seven months ended in  
August, an increase of 43 percent over the 59,023,000 pounds for the corres-  
ponding 1934 period. British production totaled 89,490,000 pounds for the  
nine months ended September 1935, an increase of 32 percent. (Press.)

Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

December 11--Livestock at Chicago (Closing Quotations):

Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice 8.75-13.25; cows good 6.00-7.00; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice 8.00-11.00; vealers good and choice 8.75-11.00; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good and choice 7.25-8.50. Hogs: 160-200 lbs good and choice 9.35-9.70; 200-250 lbs good and choice 9.50-9.75; 250-350 lbs good and choice 9.45-9.75; slaughter pigs 100-140 lbs good and choice 9.10-9.50. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down 10.15-11.25; feeding lambs range stock good and choice 9.50-10.40.

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap.  $119\frac{3}{4}$ - $121\frac{3}{4}$ ; No. 2 D.No.Spr.\*Minneap.  $115\frac{3}{4}$ - $117\frac{3}{4}$ ; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap. 95  $5/8$ -99  $5/8$ ; No. 1 Durum, Duluth, 103  $5/8$ -114  $5/8$ ; No. 2 Hard Winter\*K.C.  $105\frac{1}{4}$ - $107\frac{3}{4}$ ; Chi. 108-116; St. Louis  $107\frac{1}{2}$ -108 (Nom); No. 2 S.R.Wr. St. Louis 101- $110\frac{1}{2}$  (Nom); No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 79; No. 2 rye, Minneap.  $47\frac{3}{4}$ - $48\frac{3}{4}$ ; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C.  $63\frac{1}{2}$ - $64\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 3 yellow, Chi.  $57\frac{1}{2}$ - $59\frac{1}{4}$ ; St. Louis 60 (Nom); No. 3 white oats, Minneap.  $25\frac{1}{2}$ - $26\frac{1}{2}$ ; K.C.  $26\frac{1}{2}$ - $27\frac{1}{2}$ ; Chi.  $28\frac{1}{4}$ - $29\frac{1}{4}$ ; St. Louis  $28\frac{1}{2}$ - $29\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 1 malting barley, Minneap. 65-67; No. 3 good malting, Minneap. 51-59; No. 2 barley, Minneap. 38-39; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap.  $176\frac{1}{2}$ - $182\frac{1}{2}$ .

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.50-\$1.80 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.10-\$1.15 f.o.b. Presque Isle. New York sacked Round Whites \$1.55 in Baltimore; \$1.20-\$1.25 f.o.b. Rochester. Wisconsin sacked stock \$1.05-\$1.07 $\frac{1}{2}$  on fair quality, carlot sales in Chicago. Idaho sacked Russet Burbanks \$1.75-\$1.80 carlot sales in Chicago. New York Yellow onions brought \$1-\$1.15 per 50-pound sack in the East; 95¢-\$1.07 f.o.b. Rochester. Midwestern stock \$1-\$1.10 in consuming centers; 85¢-\$1.05 f.o.b. Grand Rapids. New York Danish type cabbage \$22 bulk per ton in New York City; \$15-\$16 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Riund type \$1.40 per halflettuce crate in Chicago; \$1-\$1.10 f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley Points. Eastern Shore Virginia Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1.50-\$1.75 per stave barrel in New York. Delaware and Maryland stock 75¢-\$1.15 per bushel basket in the East. Tennessee Nancy Halls 80¢-90¢ in the Middle West. New York, U.S. #1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  inch minimum McIntosh apples \$1.25-\$1.50 per bushel basket in New York; Baldwins 90¢-\$1 and Rhode Island Greenings \$1-\$1.12 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Average price of Middling 7/8 inch cotton in 10 designated markets declined 26 points from the previous close to 11.53 cents per pound. On the same day last year, the price was 12.61 cents. December futures contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 27 points to 11.39 cents; and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 28 points to 11.45 cents.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score,  $33\frac{1}{4}$  cents; 91 Score,  $32\frac{3}{4}$  cents; 90 Score,  $32\frac{1}{4}$  cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: S.Daisies,  $18\frac{3}{4}$ -19 cents; Y.Americas,  $18\frac{3}{4}$ - $19\frac{1}{4}$  cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 31-34 cents; Standards, 29-30 cents; Firsts,  $27\frac{3}{4}$ -28 cents. (Prepared by BAE)

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Vol. LIX, No. 63

Section 1

December 13, 1935

## HULL ON CANADIAN TRADE PACT

Moving to defend the Canadian trade treaty against the protests of western cattlemen, Secretary Hull maintained yesterday that the controverted reduction in livestock tariffs "would give them more than they would lose." The Secretary of State, in a letter written to Senator Costigan, said these restrictions will "assure the most ample protection to our domestic cattle producers." "The small concession which we have granted on cattle," he said, "must be considered, if its real significance is to be appreciated, in the broad light of the entire agreement...and of the benefits which will derive of this agreement in the shape of hundreds of millions of dollars in increased exports, a large part of which will largely consist of agricultural exports, while the remainder of the increase will be in industrial products, which, through enlarged payrolls and augmented purchasing power, will inevitably redound to the ultimate benefit of our cattle raising and farming sections." (A.P.)

## BANKING BUSINESS

A suggestion that commercial banks must make possible the withdrawal of the government from banking business was offered last night by Robert V. Fleming, president of the American Bankers Association. Addressing a forum dinner held in his honor by the New York chapter, American Institute of Banking, Fleming said that "many agencies established by the government as emergency organizations are still functioning and will have to continue to function until we as bankers take over the facilities now offered by these agencies wherever we can soundly do so." (A.P.)

## VACUUM CONCRETE METHOD

The vacuum concrete compression method, invented by Karl Billner of New York City, was applied yesterday to columns in the Coxe Field Gymnasium of Yale University, says a New Haven (Conn.) report to the New York Times. About 30 scientists from a dozen states, who witnessed the inventor's demonstrations, lasting several hours, agreed that the method, besides removing water from the ordinary concrete mixture in an hour, increased the strength of the upright column by 50 to 80 percent.

## CANADA'S CROPS

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics yesterday estimated the value of Canada's principal field crops this year was \$38,581,000 less than in 1934 but larger than in any other year since 1930. It placed the value at \$510,835,600, 7 percent below last year's value. (Canadian Press.)

Tractors  
vs. Horses                      An abstract of an article in the American Economic Review (December), on "Tractor versus Horse as a Source of Farm Power, by Naum Jasny, says: "A comparison of the effectiveness of tractors and horses as the source of farm power must take into consideration the variation in the proportion of fixed charges to total cost, particularly the number of hours that horse power is used during the years. Where horses are used little during the year, tractor power frequently is cheaper than horse power, even if prices of feed and horses are relatively lower than the prices of fuel and tractors. The reverse situation often occurs where the annual work per horse is large. Thus, the annual work per horse becomes a more important factor than the relation of the cost of feed and horses to the cost of fuel and tractors. The saving on labor which can be made by operating tractors instead of horses is significant in inducing farmers to shift to tractor power. The variations in the amount of this saving, however, frequently are not as wide as are the variations in the annual work per horse. Hence the saving on labor is of less importance than the variations in the annual amount of work per horse in determining the differences in the profitability of tractors. The same pertains to the other factors affecting the variations in the utilization of tractors (size of farms, seasonal distribution of power and labor requirements, skill of tractor operators, topography, soil, etc.)."

Pioneer  
Highways                      "Canada has used the needs growing out of the depression to push construction of its long-projected Trans-Canada Highway through many miles of the wildernesses of northern Ontario and far up into the Rocky Mountains," says an editorial in Engineering News-Record (December 5). "Few people in this country realize that there are no roads in Canada connecting the populous regions lying east of Lake Huron and Lake Superior with the Prairie Provinces to the west. The cities on the Pacific Coast are similarly isolated except for rail connections. During the past few years employment for many men has been provided in the work of closing these gaps. There remains a little over 50 miles in the Rocky Mountains and about 200 miles in northern Ontario, as outlined in this issue (Pioneer Roadbuilding Progress in Canada)..."

First Citrus  
Patent                      "Consumers and producers of grapefruit are interested in a new grapefruit developed by A. E. Henninger, a citrus grower of McAllen, Texas," says P. O. Davis, agricultural editor, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, in Country Gentleman (December). "It came as a mutation of a Thompson Pink which Mr. Henninger bought several years ago from a Florida grower. The color is ruby red, which caused the originator to give it the name Henninger Ruby...After testing the reproduction for three generations and proving that the mutated characteristics were all transmissible, Mr. Henninger applied for a plant patent, which was granted. It was the first citrus variety patent issued by the U. S. Government."

WPA Survey                      The WPA set aside \$12,000,000 recently for a survey that will seek to determine, among other things, how much of the relief problem has been due to replacing of workers by machines. The survey itself is expected to give work to 24,000 white-collar unemployed.(Press.)

Adventurous  
Research

Ben Hibbs, under the title "Rim of the Future", in Country Gentleman (December) describes research work of the department. He says in closing: "It is worth noting, in passing, that industry does not abandon research when the world seems to have a surfeit of its products. Compare the automobile, the radio, the electric refrigerator of 1935 with the models of 1929. Consider the long list of innovations which have emerged from the chemical laboratories during these lean years. Industry doesn't dare quit. And neither does agriculture. Human enterprise seldom stands at pause. When progress stops, retrogression sets in. The only way to hold our own in agriculture is to push on. I have dwelt thus far on the tangible results of research, but the quest for new things has another consequence which should not be overlooked. Whenever Country Gentleman announces an agricultural innovation, letters stream in from all over the continent. The prospect of financial gain alone doesn't prompt all these communications. Between the lines one reads of a deeper urge. Human nature hungers for new adventures, for something different, for some new activity which lifts jaded interest far above the daily routine. Farm folks can't explore the stratosphere or the faraway mountains of Tibet, but they can find adventure in the very soil which gives them sustenance. Growing some fine new plant is a satisfying experience--the sort of thing that keeps us from growing old before our time. It is fun, not only to view but actually to cross the far, inviting rim of the future."

Outdoor  
Advertising  
in England

"In its quarterly news sheet the Scapa Society (of England) whose campaign to control indiscriminate outdoor advertising deserves all the support it can command, calls attention to one aspect of the matter that is often overlooked," says Country Life (London) for November 30. "Last year, as a result of the society's representations, the Durham County Council took action under its by-laws to secure the removal of some unsightly advertisements that disfigured the picturesque village of Ryhope. Afterwards one of the firms whose poster was among the offending advertisements wrote to the society to point out that they were not responsible for the position chosen for the poster's display and that the action taken had not been against them but against the bill-posting company responsible for the site. So far from approving of the display of their posters in such places, the firm went on to say that if representations had been made to them they would have insisted on its removal. It is important that this distinction should be made. During the last few years the attitude of advertisers has notably changed, and it is now generally true to say that nearly all reputable firms are genuinely anxious to advertise their products in ways that do not injure amenities. Many advertisers would, in fact, welcome the cooperation of the public in bringing to their notice cases, unnoticed by them, in which their posters cause offence."

Soviet  
Buying

Soviet purchases in the United States for the first 11 months of this year reached a total of \$36,500,000, more than two and a half times the figure for all of 1934 and three times greater than that for 1933, it was announced recently. The total comprises \$28,000,000 worth of machinery and other manufactured products purchased by the Amtorg Trading Corporation here and \$7,500,000 of raw cotton bought by the All Russia Textile Syndicate. (Press.)

Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

December 12--Livestock at Chicago (Closing Quotations):

Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice 8.75-13.25; cows good 5.75-6.75; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice 8.00-11.00; vealers good and choice 8.75-11.00; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good and choice 7.25-8.75. Hogs: 160-200 lbs good and choice 9.35-9.70; 200-250 lbs good and choice 9.50-9.70; 250-350 lbs good and choice 9.45-9.70; slaughter pigs 100-140 lbs good and choice 9.10-9.45. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down 10.15-11.00; feeding lambs range stock good and choice 9.35-10.25.

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. 119 5/8-121 5/8; No. 2 D.No.Spr.\*Minneap. 115 5/8-117 5/8; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap. 96 $\frac{1}{2}$ -99 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 1 Durum, Duluth, 104 $\frac{1}{2}$ -115 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 2 Hard Winter\*K.C. 105 $\frac{1}{4}$ -108 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Chi. 108-117; St. Louis 108 $\frac{1}{2}$ (Nom); No. 2 S.R.Wr. St. Louis 103; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 80; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 48 $\frac{1}{4}$ -49 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 63-64 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; St. Louis 62-62 $\frac{1}{2}$  (Nom); No. 3 yellow, Chi. 57 $\frac{1}{4}$ -59 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 25 3/8-26 3/8; K.C. 26 $\frac{1}{4}$ -27 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Chi. 27 $\frac{1}{4}$ -28 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; St. Louis 29-29 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 1 malting barley, Minneap. 65-67; No. 3 good malting Minneap. 52-60; No. 2, Minneap. 38-39; No. 1 flaxseed Minneap. 176-181.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.50-\$1.85 per 100 pounds in eastern markets; \$1.10 f.o.b. Presque Is.e. Wisconsin sacked Round type, find quality \$1.30 carlot sales in Chicago; 90¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. Idaho sacked Russet Burbanks \$1.75 carlot sales in Chicago; 97 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ f.o.b. Idaho Falls. New York Yellow Varieties of onions brought 90¢-\$1.15 per 50-pound sack in terminal markets; \$1.02-\$1.08 f.o.b. Rochester. Midwestern stock 75¢-\$1.10 in consuming centers; 90¢ f.o.b. West Michigan Points. New York Danish type cabbage \$20-\$22 bulk per ton in New York City; sacked stock \$17-\$18 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$1.35-\$1.40 per  $\frac{1}{2}$  lettuce crate in Chicago; 90¢-\$1 f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley Points. Eastern Shore Virginia Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1.50-\$1.75 per stave barrel in New York City. Delaware and Maryland stock 75¢-\$1.15 per bushel basket in city markets. Tennessee Nancy Halls 75¢-90¢ in the Middle West. New York U.S. #1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  inch minimum, McIntosh apples \$1.25-\$1.50 per bushel basket in New York; Baldwins 75¢-\$1 and Rhode Island Greenings \$1-1.12 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Average price of Middling 7/8 inch cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 8 points from the previous close to 11.61 cents per pound. On the same day last year, the price was 12.56 cents. December futures contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 3 points to 11.42 cents; and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 7 points to 11.52 cents.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 33 cents; 91 Score, 32 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; 90 Score, 32 cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: S.Daisies, 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ -19 cents; Y.Americas, 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ -19 $\frac{1}{4}$  cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ -34 cents; Standards, 30-31 cents; Firsts, 27 $\frac{3}{4}$ -28 cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.

# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LIX, No. 64

Section 1

December 14, 1935

**CONSTRUCTION**            The physical wealth of the nation will be increased at  
**VALUE OF**                least \$5,000,000,000 as the result of the construction now  
**WPA PROGRAM**            being carried out under the works relief program, Harry L.  
                              Hopkins, WPA administrator, estimated yesterday. Of this  
amount, he said, \$3,585,000,000 will represent the actual construction  
value of projects and the remainder the increase in property values and  
productive capacity. Mr. Hopkins' computation was based upon figures sup-  
plied by WPA statisticians. The totals were compiled after \$4,007,000,000  
of the \$4,880,000,000 work and direct relief fund voted by Congress had  
been allotted. (Press.)

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**CODES UNDER**                Only nine industries have taken advantage of the new  
**NEW N.R.A.**                NRA law, passed at the last session of Congress, permitting  
                              voluntary codes, records of the Federal Trade Commission  
revealed yesterday. This compared with more than 500 codes made effective  
under the old NRA. Only the wholesale tobacco code has been approved both  
as to fair practice provisions and labor provisions. Fair practice pro-  
visions have been approved for codes in these industries: braided nonelastic  
industry, solid braided cord, asbestos manufacturing, candle manufacture,  
fertilizer manufacturing, expanding and special paper products, rock and,  
slag wool manufacturing, and asphalt shingle roofing. (Washington Post.)

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**EXHIBIT AT**                Offering a variety of exhibits ranging in character  
**CARNEGIE**                from race horse breeding to desert vegetation, the annual  
**INSTITUTION**            "open house" of the Carnegie Institution will be held today  
                              and continue through Monday, says the Washington Post.  
Fourteen exhibits representing results of the institution's research activi-  
ties, together with the public lectures which will be given daily at  
scheduled hours, are expected to attract thousands to the headquarters  
building at Sixteenth and P Streest N.W. Open house hours today, tomorrow  
and Monday are from 2 to 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.

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**TOBACCO**                Discovery of tobacco plants as big as forest trees has  
**"TREES"**                been reported by Prof. T. H. Goodspeed, director of the  
                              University of California Botanical Gardens, who is on an  
expedition into the lower Andean country of South America. Professor Good-  
speed and his party of three scientists are in search of new "wild relatives"  
of the commercial tobacco species. The giant specimens of *Nicotiana tomen-*  
*tosa*, one of them 60 feet high, were found in the Cuzco region. (New York  
Times.)

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Farm Crops Adjustment      "The side of crop adjustment that many who are not acquainted with farm operation overlook is that we cannot keep on cultivating the present acreage and maintain our farms," says George W. Godfrey in *Successful Farming* (December). "We have been like a man speeding in a race. We have gone beyond our endurance. To maintain the fertility of the fields, to keep down the costly weeds, and to check the continuing erosion, we are needing more grass. When we get the real program of agricultural adjustment under way, it will be one of giving some kind of advantage for keeping land under grass. Once that program is started, it will be simpler and more satisfactory than what we have had. It will also be definitely contributing to the public good. The generation that plowed up the prairie sod got us biased against grass. Grass was then too plentiful. Now we have to change that philosophy. Nature used grass as a guard of her treasures in the land. We will have to change that philosophy. Nature used grass as a guard of her treasures in the land. We will have to go back to the same guardian. Grass is a crop not only for waste places; it has a regular place on the best land. Grass is an evidence of permanency."

Political Science Articles      The *Political Science Quarterly* (December) contains the following: *The Reichswirtschaftsrat: De Mortuis*, by Lindsay Rogers and W. R. Dittmar, Columbia University; *Interstate Compacts and Social Legislation*, by Jane Perry Clark, Barnard College; *Individual, State and Corporation*, by Giorgio Del Vecchio, University of Rome, Italy; *Man-Power in China*, by Dorothy Johnson Orchard, New York City; *The Shaping of Revolutionary New England, 1680-1740*, by Clifford, K. Shipton, Boston.

Desert Life      Civilization has filled up the "easy" lands of the globe and is pressing against the margins of the desert. Dry farming, grazing and irrigation, with their past successes and failure, their promises and dangers, present a challenge to the student of plant life, which can be met only by making fundamental investigations of desert plants and the conditions under which they must live. Investigations of this kind, carried on for many years in the desert area of the southwest, were summarized in a lecture recently by Dr. Forrest Shreve of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. Dr. Shreve has made a special study of the dry region that overlaps into the northern Mexican State of Sonora, one of the world's six great desert areas. Dr. Shreve called attention to the fact that the world's great civilizations began under the influence of deserts--Egypt, Mesopotamia, Mexico, Peru--and that not until the beginning of the Middle Ages did any important culture develop in the wooded and rainy parts of the Old World. (Science Service,)

Virgin Islands      Some 200 natives are now provided with continuous employment in the work of the Virgin Islands Company, major unit in the set-up designed to bring a measure of economic security to Virgin Islanders. Gov. Cramer reported recently to Secretary of the Interior Ickes. Their labors include clearing the land, some of it covered with jungle vegetation, planting, raising and marketing sugarcane and other products and distilling rum from part of the sugarcane grown. (Interior Department.)

State Control in Agriculture      The Economic Journal (London); a quarterly, contains in the December issue an address on "The Financial and Economic Results of State Control in Agriculture" by J. A. Venn. It says in conclusion: "Fundamentally, too, the farmer whose production costs are high now secures recognition that formerly was the reward of his more efficient brethren. Nor can it be denied that this system of regulated production will, as a concomitant to increased profits for those permitted to remain, logically necessitate the exercise of restraint upon every soil product, including those essential to health, raised upon each commercial unit of land, which in turn must bring under review the determination of rent as well as (now) profits and wages...Home producers prefer import duties to restriction and we in this country must not forget that the latter method presents to our own kith and kin overseas a virtually insoluble problem in the shape of consequential control of their own individual producers. It is therefore certain that the latest proposals, initiating a movement from quotas to levies, with a modicum of Dominion preference, will meet with approval from both parties..." Other articles in the journal are Economic Nationalism and International Trade, by Prof. J. G. Smith; The Pareto Law and the Distribution of Income, by Prof. G. F. Shirras; The Imputation of Advertising Costs, by H. Smith; The Social Significance of the Theory of Value, by E.F.M. Durbin.

Faster R.R. Service      Announcement of a 16-hour daily passenger service between Chicago and Denver, to start early in June, has been made jointly by Carl R. Gray, president of the Union Pacific Railroad, and Fred W. Sargent, president of the Chicago & Northwestern. The 1,048 miles between the two cities will be run at an average speed of 65.5 miles an hour, making this the fastest long-distance passenger service train in the world. Two Diesel electric-powered ten-car streamlined trains will provide this service, which will shorten the present fastest running time between Chicago and Denver by 11 hours 45 minutes and between Denver and Chicago by 9 hours 15 minutes. (Press.)

Utilization of Bark      "Bark has been a nuisance by-product of timber utilization since early saw mill days," says an editorial in Paper Trade Journal (December 5), "but now a paper company has found means of giving it commercial value in a market comparable in potential demand to the large amount of raw material available, by making a new flooring material composed of ground bark and mineral fillers. Its introduction will be watched with special interest by the many research workers who have been engaged in forest product studies. Factory floors, especially trucking aisles, elevator approaches and shipping platforms are the first sales approach, but the claimed combination of comfortable resilience with resistance to abrasion would seem to indicate wider opportunities. Many a proposed new floor covering has failed to meet the requirement that heavy furniture and other standing loads be held without serious indentation. The material is said also to resist abrasion, not to absorb oils or stain readily, not to become either sticky or rough, and even not to scar when half-smoked cigarettes are dropped on the floor...Recent intensive study of molding under high pressure and heat has resulted in a product of the required degree of density..."



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LIX, No. 65

Section 1

December 16, 1935

## STEEL MILL EXPANSION

The Jones & Laughlin Steel Corporation disclosed a \$40,000,000 improvement and expansion program yesterday in a letter to stockholders, says a Pittsburgh report by the Associated Press. Approval of a \$100,000,000 first mortgage, \$60,000,000 to be held in reserve, was requested, involving one of the most important new private financing projects since 1929. Work would be given to thousands in the construction and operation of a \$25,000,000 strip and sheet mill in Pittsburgh, the largest of its kind.

## PACKER'S EARNINGS

Swift & Company, first of the big packers to make public the result of operations for an unusual year in the livestock-meat industry, yesterday reported a 29 percent increase in earnings during 1935. Net profit for the fiscal year ended October 26 was \$14,767,302, equivalent to \$2.46 per share on the capital stock, compared with a net of \$11,432,492, or \$1.90, in the previous fiscal period. This year's profit amounted to 6.7 percent on shareholders' investment. (A.P.)

## INTERIOR DEPT. REPORT

Widespread activities of the Interior Department, ranging from completing Boulder Dam to detective work, were listed yesterday in the annual report of Secretary Ickes. Two of the "major accomplishments" cited were "establishment of a division of grazing, the creation of grazing districts and the undertaking of a variety of conservation measures with a view to protecting the grazing lands and estabilizing the livestock industry dependent upon the range;" and "a new deal for the Indians, under the Wheeler-Howard act, and the important contribution of the Indians to the emergency conservation program."

## CANADIAN FIELD CROPS

An Ottawa report by the Associated Press says the Dominion Bureau of Statistics estimated the value of Canada's principal field crops yesterday at \$38,581,000 less than the 1934 figure, but higher than that of any other year since 1930. The bureau estimated the value of all principal crops at \$510,835,600 below last year's value. It placed the 1935 wheat crop at \$166,693,000, a drop of \$3,000,000, and said recessions in prices more than offset increased production of such crops as fodder and coarse grains.

Rural Resettlement      Booth Mooney, associate editor, Texas Weekly, in an article on the rural resettlement administration, in the November 30 issue, says: "...It may be said that the real purpose of the Resettlement Administration's program is to help farm families to help themselves. The R.A. does not propose to force families to do anything that is contrary to their interests or to make mandatory their moving from one locality to another. And even a superficial examination shows that the program must necessarily be a long-range one, for a situation as far-reaching as that obtaining today among farm families cannot be corrected in a matter of weeks or months. It is what might be called a practical education program--and it takes time...The theory is that public utilization is not alone a means of preventing misuse but is the only practical way to make possible the constructive use of the land for such things as recreation, wildlife conservation and watershed protection, since private ownership cannot afford to undertake these services. It is emphasized that land purchased by the Resettlement Administration will not lie idle, but will be utilized for a variety of public purposes. In line with this phase of the program, it is also hoped that the purchasing of isolated farms in poor areas will help the settlers to move to better land nearer to existing communities, thus facilitating a more equitable distribution of the costs of government."

Meat in Demand      Convincing evidence of the way in which increased incomes add to the demands for foodstuffs is found in a bulletin recently issued by the Minnesota Experiment Station, University Farm, St. Paul, A Study of the Consumption of Meats in Minneapolis, 1934, by Warren C. Waite and Rex W. Cox, division of agricultural economics. A graph on the cover shows that in Minneapolis the weekly per capita consumption of meats is 4 pounds for persons with an income of \$900 or more; 3.1 pounds for persons with an income of \$600 to \$899; 2.6 pounds for persons with an income of \$300 to \$599, and 2.1 pounds for those with an income of less than \$300. The authors of the bulletin say: "This close relationship indicates that a revival of business activity, resulting in increased city consumer incomes, would materially benefit the meat producers. It is even possible that consumer expenditures on meat would increase more than the increase in incomes. It also suggests that, with present levels of income, consumers will react to higher prices either with material decreases in the amounts of meat purchased or with a shift to lower qualities." (News Bureau, University Farm, St. Paul.)

Turkey Barter      Turkeys were swapped for beavers, in an interstate trading match between Wisconsin and Illinois, engineered by the U.S. Forest Service office at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Wild turkeys were extinct in Wisconsin and Illinois had not had any beavers for many years. So a Forest Service truck carried 20 beavers across the line into northern Illinois, where they were "planted" on the small streams. On the return trip, the truck brought back 50 Illinois wild turkeys and turned them loose in the Wisconsin woods. Both states regard it as a "fair trade." (Science News Letter, December 7.)

**Electrification in Texas** Due to improved technic in the transmission of electric energy and lowered installation charges, there is a marked increase in Texas rural sections in construction of electric power lines; says a Dallas report to the Wall Street Journal. Recent installations of several hundred miles show 60 percent to be among farmers. All the large Texas power companies are devoting their chief attention to extending electric light and power into rural territory where a large market exists. Formerly backward Texas areas under plans of public, private and cooperative stimulus are receiving electricity for the first time in their history. Recently in Ellis County, the nation's leading cotton county, three communities, hitherto without benefit of electricity, were linked upon a 15-mile power line serving several thousand rural and farm people.

**Slippery Highway Surface** "During the winter when ice is a factor on our rural highways, it is customary to apply sand or cinders on dangerous hills, curves and intersections," says New England Homestead (December 7). "Traffic and wind, however, whisks away this material. This situation can be remedied and a better tractive surface obtained if the material used is mixed in a melting agent, usually calcium chloride. This material thaws the ice sufficiently, to embed firmly the particles of gravel, sand or cinders, anchoring the material in the ice and providing almost a skid-proof surface. Untreated slippery highways are costly in terms of human lives, disabling injuries and wrecked automobiles."

**Xmas Trees as a Farm Crop** "...Until a few years ago the woods of Canada, northern New England and the Great Northwest provided nearly all the raw material for Christmas trees," says Frank T. Murphy, writing on "Christmas Trees As a Farm Crop" in Pennsylvania Farmer (December 7). "...However, there is another group nearer home who are entering this field of endeavor; each succeeding year in increasing numbers. This new competitor is the farmer. Just as the hunters of wild rubber gradually gave ground against the supplies of their product coming from the cultivated groves of rubber planters, so also are distant gatherers of Christmas trees feeling the pressure of the locally grown product. Millions of trees are being planted each year on cleared land within trucking distance of big eastern and central markets. From present indications, it would appear that in another ten years sufficient trees will have been started growing so that Mr. and Mrs. Consumer can get all they wish close at hand from these hand-nurtured specimens. It may be possible that in a short time many users of trees will be able to go right to the plantation, select their price tree and see it cut fresh from the living specimen. Are the present pioneers who are growing this new farm crop meeting with success? With few exceptions, they are. They are encountering plenty of competition from the gatherers of trees from the wild, due largely to present disorderly marketing practices. They do realize, however, that they have the jump on their competitors. They can cut and fill quick orders in under-stocked markets. They can let their trees continue to grow another year or two if their particular outlets are oversupplied. And what is most important of all, they can give to the public a variety of fresh-cut evergreens that will satisfy the most exacting purchaser..."

Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

December 13--Livestock at Chicago (Closing Quotations):

Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice 8.75-13.25; cows good 5.75-6.75; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice 8.00-11.00; vealers good and choice 8.75-11.00; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good and choice 7.25-8.75. Hogs: 160-200 lbs good and choice 9.40-9.75; 200-250 lbs good and choice 9.50-9.75; 250-350 lbs good and choice 9.45-9.70; slaughter pigs 100-140 lbs good and choice 9.25-9.50. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down 10.25-11.00; feeding lambs range stock good and choice 9.35-10.25.

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. 124 5/8-126 5/8; No. 2 D. No.Spr.\*Minneap. 120 5/8-122 5/8; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap. 101 1/2-105 1/2; No. 1 Durum, Duluth, 109 1/2-120 1/2; No. 2 Hard Winter\*K.C. 110-113; Chi. 113 1/2-121 1/2; St. Louis 111 1/2 (Nom); No. 2 S.R.Wr. St. Louis 107 1/2; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 84; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 51 3/4-52 3/4; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 64-66; St. Louis 64; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 58 1/4-60 1/2; St. Louis 62-63; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 27-28; K.C. 27-29; Chi. 26 1/2-30; St. Louis 28 1/2-30 (Nom); No. 1 malting barley, Minneap. 66-68; No. 3 good malting, Minneap. 53-60; No. 2, Minneap. 40-41; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. 186-192.

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Vol. LIX, No. 66

Section 1

December 17, 1935

**EXCESS BANK RESERVES** Federal Reserve Bank governors, meeting at Washington today, will discuss the increasingly pressing problem of what to do with the enormous volume of excess reserves piled up by the banks. These reserves now exceed \$3,000,000,000. Control of credit by increasing the reserve requirements of the banks has been advocated by the present open market committee rather than through sale of reserve bank holding of government securities. (Press.)

**SOCIAL SECURITY** At a meeting of representatives of virtually all states, with members of the Social Security Board, the administration was assured that the various local governments would submit estimates about January 1 of the amounts they plan to spend as their shares of the joint Federal-State old-age pensions. This was revealed yesterday by officials who asserted that under this arrangement payments should start on the joint old-age pensions just as soon as Congress appropriates funds for the Federal share of costs. Under the law, the government will match each dollar of State funds with Federal money. (Press.)

**WILD DUCK DEATHS** A further investigation of reports that hundreds of wild ducks along the Chesapeake Bay had been killed by feeding on phosphorus deposits is planned by the State Conservation Commission in Maryland, says a Baltimore report by the Associated Press. A few years ago the Biological Survey, in investigating the killing of thousands of wild ducks in the Aberdeen area, reported the deaths were caused by phosphorous deposits left by firing of big guns at the proving grounds.

**LUMBER UNDER CANADIAN PACT** The National Lumber Manufacturers Association informed Secretary Hull yesterday it intends to accept the "additional difficult responsibility" resulting from the Canadian trade agreement "in the same spirit in which it has heretofore sought to cooperate with the constructive purposes of government." Meanwhile, the Associated Press reported from Ottawa that the Canadian motor car manufacturers had moved for cancellation of the concessions made to the United States on automobile tariffs under the trade agreement.

**"BABY" BONDS** Disclosing that \$178,718,250 of baby bonds, with a maturity value of \$238,291,000, were sold between March 1 and November 30, Secretary Morgenthau announced yesterday that a new series of the United States Savings Bonds would be issued for sale through the Postal Service on January 1. (Press.)

Stabilizing Highways                "Launching an extensive state construction program, the Minnesota State Highway Department has arranged to improve 175 miles of the secondary trunk system," says The Farmer (St. Paul) for December 7. "The program is designed to furnish maximum man hours of employment consistent with worthwhile improvement and will be financed to a large extent from Minnesota's \$5,000,000 allotment of federal works progress funds. In most cases, the stabilized gravel projects involve improvement of the grade as well as the addition of aggregate, binder soil and calcium chloride for the wearing course. The department has been doing stabilization experimentally for the past year and has found that the new type surface is satisfactory under moderate traffic conditions and forms a good base for added surfacing of other types if it should be required."

"Yellow-Tailed" Crows                Canadian hunters on the prairies need not be surprised soon if their kill includes a black crow with the stern feathers painted a brilliant yellow. Prof. William Rowan of the University of Alberta is carrying on a new experiment with crows. A shipment of 75 crows has been sent to Winnipeg and somewhere west of Manitoba's capital, far from familiar landmarks, the birds will be released, says the Canadian Press. The birds are subjected to a stern-feather coating of yellow and are banded. The professor hopes to determine if the birds released in Manitoba will, like the early starters, wing their way to warmer southern climates for the winter.

Connecticut Egg Sales                Five million dollars worth of eggs have been sold by the Connecticut Poultry Producers, Inc., during the 11 years of its existence, Manager F. A. Miner told the members of the cooperative at their recent annual meeting. During the year just closed more than half a million dollars worth of Connecticut eggs were sold, it being the fourth year in the association's history that the half million figure has been reached. (New England Homestead, December 7.)

Electric Soil Heaters                Electric soil heating for the propagation of seeds and promoting plant growth is making headway in Canada. Nearly 200 installations are now being used in the province of Ontario in greenhouses and in hotbeds and coldframes, for propagating the seeds to tomatoes, cabbage, cauliflower, eggplant, peppers, cucumbers, melons, certain flowers, rooting cuttings of flowers, evergreens and sprouting sweet potatoes. In the Burlington district the use of under-soil electric heating hastens the development of plants to set out in the field by about three weeks and the growers report that freedom from worry when the weather changes is one of the distinct advantages of electric-soil heating. Plants have much greater root development, shorter and thicker stems and are generally more rugged. During the past season plants when set out in the field had less wilt and made quick recovery from it. (California Cultivator, December 7.)

Mash for Turkeys                "An all-grain ration without mash is not good for young turkeys that are being prepared for market," says R. L. Cochran in Country Gentleman (December). "This fact was demonstrated by the Oklahoma Station. The workers there knew that many turkey raisers were using grain largely in finishing their birds. Four

pens of turkeys were divided up as evenly as possible and were all fed the first 12 weeks on a growing mash. The mash then gradually was removed from Pen 2 until cubed corn was entirely substituted. This corn ration was continued for two months...A check of the mortality showed that 36.8 percent of those in Pen 2 died, while the mortality in the other pens averaged from 13 to 33 percent...The turkeys were marketed at 28 weeks of age. At that time they were graded by a regular packing-house grader as follows: Pen 1 had 82.6 percent of the top-grade dressed turkeys; Pen 2--which got the corn ration for two months--had only 68 percent of top grade; and the other two pens, 80.5 and 83.3 percent. This Oklahoma test demonstrates that high mortality, poor growth and poor finish are the results of many of the improper feeding practices now followed."

Canadian Wheat Board      "William D. Euler, trade minister, seems to be spokesman for the newly elected administration in Canada, on the personnel and policies of the Dominion Wheat Board," says Grain & Feed Journals (December 11). "The new board is composed of James R. Murray, George H. McIvor and A. M. Shaw. Mr. Murray has been general manager of the Alberta Pacific Grain Company and is chairman. Minister Euler said recently: 'The Dominion Government desires to have its surplus restored to a normal basis. To accomplish this the wheat board will seek the good will and cooperation of the grain and milling trades in all importing countries. It is not necessary to have...any"fire sale" of Canadian wheat, but it will be for sale at competitive values and will not be held at exorbitant premiums over other wheats.'"

REA Loans              The Rural Electrification Administration will finance for Wiring      the wiring of houses and other farm buildings where rural line construction is making electricity available, Administrator Cooke announced recently. The action is designed to remove one of the great barriers to a rapid increase in rural electrification. The program provides financing of line construction and wiring through REA and financing of the purchase of major appliances and equipment through the Electric Home and Farm Authority. REA financing of rural house wiring will be available both on lines built with REA funds and on those constructed with private financing. First to make use of the new wiring facilities is the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation which has signed contracts for REA line construction in two counties, Shelby and Miami. The financing of wiring installations by REA instead of by EHFA will tend to centralize the rural aspects of the government electrification program and will enable EHFA to concentrate on financing appliance and equipment purchases on a national scale. (REA, No. 42.)

National Parks Report      That the American public makes more and more out of its national parks each year is shown by the fact that visitors during the fiscal year increased 22 percent over the preceding year, which up to that time had been the banner year of national park history, according to the annual report of the Secretary of the Interior. Records show an increase in state parks of 67,300 acres of land during the seven months from September 1, 1934, to April 1, 1935, and this area has been added to since. These additions were in 25 of the 48 states. (Dept. of the Interior.)

Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

December 16--Livestock at Chicago (Closing Quotations): Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers: steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice \$8.75-13.00; cows good 5.50-6.50; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice 7.75-10.75; vealers good and choice 7.75-10.75; vealers good and choice 8.50-11.00; feeder and stocker steers; 500-1050 lbs good and choice 7.25-8.50. Hogs 160-200 lbs good and choice 9.30-9.60; 200-250 lbs good and choice 9.40-9.65; 250-350 lbs good and choice 9.25-9.65; slaughter pigs 100-140 lbs good and choice 9.15-9.40. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down 10.15-11.00; feeding lambs range stock good and choice 9.00-9.90.

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. 122 5/8-124 5/8; No. 2 D. No.Spr.\*Minneap. 118 5/8-120 5/8; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap. 98 1/2-102 1/2; No. 1 Dur.Duluth 106 1/2-117 1/2; No. 2 Hd.Wr. \* K.C. 108-112 1/4; Chi. 110 1/4-120 1/4; St. Louis 112; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 83 1/2. No. 2 rye, Minneap. 48 5/8-49 5/8; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 64-66; No. 3 yellow Chi. 56 1/4-58 1/2; St. Louis 60 (Nom); No. 3 white oats Minneap. 25 1/2-26 1/2; K.C. 26 1/2-28 1/4; Chi. 27 1/4-29 1/4; St. Louis 28 3/4; No. 1 malting barley Minneap. 66-68; No. 3 good malting Minneap. 52-59; No. 2 Minneap. 38-39; No. 1 flaxseed Minneap. 181-187.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.45-\$1.80 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.05-\$1.10 f.o.b. Presque Isle. New York sacked Round Whites \$1.50 in the East; \$1.19-\$1.22 f.o.b. Rochester. Wisconsin sacked stock \$1.10 carlot sales in Chicago; 90¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. Idaho sacked Russet Burbanks \$1.60-\$1.77 1/2 carlot sales in Chicago; 95¢-\$1 f.o.b. Idaho Falls. New York Yellow Varieties of onions brought \$1-\$1.25 per 50-pound sack in eastern markets; 95¢-\$1.10 f.o.b. Rochester. Midwestern stock 90¢-\$1.10 in a few cities; 90¢-\$1 f.o.b. West Michigan Points. Eastern Shore Virginia Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1.75-\$2 per stave barrel in Baltimore. Tennessee Nancy Halls 75¢-85¢ per bushel hamper in the Middle West. Delaware and Maryland Jersey type 80¢-\$1.20 in city markets. New York Danish type cabbage \$20-\$22 bulk per ton in New York City; sacked \$15-\$16 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$1.25-\$1.50 per 1/2 lettuce crate in consuming centers; 90¢ f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley Points. New York U.S. #1, 2 1/2 inch minimum McIntosh apples \$1.25-\$1.40 per bushel basket in New York; Rhode Island Greenings \$1-\$1.10 and Baldwins 75¢-85¢.

Average price of Middling 7/8 inch cotton in 10 designated markets declined 21 points from the previous close to 11.40 cents per pound. On the same day last year, the price was 12.53 cents. December futures contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 18 points to 11.29 cents; and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 24 points to 11.35 cents.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 34 cents; 91 Score, 33 3/4 cents; 90 Score, 33 1/4 cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: S.Daisies, 18 1/2-19 cents; Y.Americas, 18 3/4-19 1/4 cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 31-33 1/2¢; standards, 28 1/2-29 1/2 cents; Firsts, 27 1/2 cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIX, No. 67

Section 1

December 18, 1935

## SEEK CODE FOR COTTON

Pledges to maintain basic provisions of the industry's former codes will be sought from 1,200 cotton mills throughout the country before January 1, it was announced yesterday by Dr. Claudius Murchison, president of the Cotton Textile Institute. Under the simple proposed pledge, mills will be asked to agree with the institute and "in consideration of similar pledges by other mills," not to exceed the two 40-hour shifts a week maximum for productive machinery, nor the 40-hour maximum work week for employees; to pay, at least, code minimum wages; and to employ no child labor, standards which, it was emphasized, have been maintained voluntarily by more than 90 percent of the active spindles in the industry since the collapse of the National Industrial Recovery Act. (New York Times.)

## CHRISTMAS SPENDING

Christmas trade and income-tax payments offered combined evidence yesterday that in the city and throughout the country Americans have more money to spend this year. Figures on the extent of pre-holiday shopping during the first half of this month showed, for the country at large, an increase of almost 10 percent over last year, the National Retail Dry Goods Association announced. The income-tax figures showed that New Yorkers paid to the Federal Government about \$52,000,000 more in income taxes this year than last. (New York Times.)

## RECIPROCAL TRADE PACTS

Pressing forward with its program for revival of foreign commerce, the United States Government last night was preparing to sign reciprocal trade agreements with two more nations this week. Word was expected of consummation of a new treaty with Honduras at Tegucigalpa, where the formal ceremony of signing will take place. At the same time, Secretary Hull was ready to join diplomatic representatives of the Netherlands in signing here an accord with that nation, scheduled tentatively for Thursday. (A.P.)

## GERMAN EXPORTS

A Berlin wireless to the New York Times says German exports, which have risen steadily since the billion-mark export subsidy scheme was introduced in June, reached a new high in November of 397,300,000 marks. German imports, throttled under Economics Minister Hjalmar Schacht's "new plan" of foreign trade control, had to be increased slightly to ease the food shortage, but they remained at the low level of 346,200,000 marks. This left an export surplus of 51,100,000 marks, bringing the year's surplus to 75,200,000 marks, compared with a deficit of 248,000,000 marks the previous year.

Vitamin A                    "Feed dealers and cooperatives who are buying large  
in Alfalfa                   quantities of alfalfa meals to incorporate into rations  
                                 primarily as a source of vitamin A would do well to con-  
sider purchasing on the basis of carotene content," says Grain & Feed  
Journals (December 11), "since the analytical technic is no more compli-  
cated or expensive than the other feed analyses commonly made. As a re-  
sult of the research of Harold R. Guilbert, associate animal husbandman  
of the University of California, testing of alfalfa hay for carotene content  
is spreading rapidly in all parts of the United States. Guilbert recently  
developed a simple method of making such tests, which he describes in the  
Journal of Nutrition. 'The vitamin A problem in alfalfa is essentially  
a carotene problem,' says Guilbert. 'The variability in carotene content  
of alfalfa hay and meal, both dehydrated and sun-cured, is so great that  
no generalities can be made. A reasonable degree of standardization of  
products prepared for their vitamin A content should be made possible.'  
Guilbert points out that not only in the curing but in storage is carotene  
lost from alfalfa or its products."

Butter in                    "For the first time in the history of the dairying  
Cold Storage                industry of Australia, opportunity has been given to in-  
                                 spect and examine the texture of butter which has been held  
in cold room for nearly four years," says Ice and Cold Storage (December,  
London). "Originally treated by what is known as the Abel vacuum process,  
eleven boxes were put into cold room November 21, 1931...The boxes of  
treated butter and controls had been kept during the period mentioned at  
a temperature of 9° F. Examination of the process butter demonstrated  
that the texture was extraordinarily good. With the cores taken off the  
tryer, it was possible to make a perfect loop, while in the case of the  
control, butter fractures took place directly bending commenced. Members  
of the grading staff declared that from the point of view of texture the  
results were very good; the effects of the low temperature had not affected  
the butter's physical properties and the resultant texture of each of the  
boxes was high enough to give the maximum points (30) laid down by the  
dairying industry act when grading butter. Subsequently, samples were  
taken and spread on new bread. Here, again, the smallness of the grain  
and the perfect combination of the fat in the processed samples were ap-  
parent, the butter spreading evenly and without the crumbling usual with  
butter that has been subject to low temperatures."

British                    "The farmers of England have been delighted by the  
Minister of                fact that the Prime Minister has kept Mr. Walter Elliot at  
Agriculture                the Ministry of Agriculture, in spite of his electoral  
                                 vicissitudes, which now seem to be definitely at an end," says/  
Country Life, London, Dec. 7

"Perhaps we should say that we are glad that Mr. Elliot has been content  
to stay at the Ministry of Agriculture, for that is surely what it amounts  
to. Speaking on the estimates last session, Mr. Baldwin remarked that it  
was entirely unreasonable that ministers, like the Minister of Labour and  
the Minister of Agriculture, engaged on the most difficult of tasks, which  
were of vital importance to national reconstruction, should receive sal-  
aries of 2,000 pounds a year, while other ministers received 5,000 pounds.

There is no denying this and no need to urge Mr. Elliot's past performances in supporting it. It is an obvious scandal that when such a department as the Ministry of Agriculture obtains a minister of real ability, energy and initiative, it should be constantly in danger of losing him on such irrational grounds..."

**Stabilized Construction** J. W. Reppel, author of "Experimental Stabilization in Ohio" in Roads and Streets (December) says: "The Department of Roads of Highways of Ohio, under the immediate direction of J. N. Doyle, division engineer, with headquarters at Chillicothe, Ohio, recently conducted an experiment in stabilization of foundation which involved rigid control of proportions, the use of a commercially prepared fire-clay binder, the employment of different kinds of salt and the placing of the completed mixtures on a comparatively new grade, which operation is thought might be of interest to other engineers...Samples cut from the three sections of calcium chloride, calcium magnesium chloride, and rock salt indicated a uniform density and distribution of aggregate--literally 'clay concrete'--hard, tough and wear resistant. The only difference noted in the three samples was a difference in moisture content, the calcium magnesium having the most and rock salt the least moisture. The salt section shows a grayish surface, the other two sections a glazed brown color. At this time of writing, the entire section is tightly bound, non-skid and hard, with every indication of making a good, durable surface. The writer believes that this type of construction has distinct possibilities as a base for surface treatment or rigid type surfaces, either as a maintenance or contract operation."

**Heat-Insulated Greenhouse** "A development that may change greenhouse construction and practice radically is the heat-insulated greenhouse, the floor, walls, ends and one side of the roof of which are made of heat-insulating materials without windows," says the Washington Farmer (December 12). "In the other side of the roof there is a single row of sash, and the interior walls and roof are painted white to take advantage of all the light entering. Three-hundred-watt lamps in dome type reflectors and controlled by automatic thermostat are used for the double purpose of heating the house and supplementing daylight and the lamps are the only heat source used. Such construction is more economical than the conventional and has the advantage of not requiring a heating plant. The operating cost is comparable with that of a stove-heated ordinary greenhouse and maintenance is considerably less. Plants are brought to bloom sooner, their quality is higher and there is better control of parasites. With the heat-insulated greenhouse it may be possible to predict almost to a day the blossoming time of any plant and to bring about blossoming on order."

**Farmhand Unions** According to a report presented by Piet Heimstra of Utrecht, Holland, secretary of the International Landworkers Union, to the seventh congress of that organization, held this year in London, the membership of its affiliated unions is about 150,000 in Denmark, Estonia, Great Britain, Holland, Norway, Palestine, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. (Press.)

Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

December 17--Livestock at Chicago (Closing Quotations):  
Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice 9.00-13.50; cows good 5.50-6.50; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice 7.75-10.50; vealers good and choice 8.50-11.00; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good and choice 7.25-8.50. Hogs: 160-200 lbs good and choice 9.15-9.50; 200-250 lbs good and choice 9.25-9.50; 250-350 lbs good and choice 9.20-9.30; slaughter pigs 100-140 lbs good and choice 9.15-9.40. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down 10.30-11.25; feeding lambs range stock good and choice 9.00-9.90.

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. 122 7/8-124 7/8; No. 2 D.No.Spr.\*Minneap. 118 7/8-120 7/8; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap. 98 5/8-102 5/8; No. 1 Durum, Duluth, 106 5/8-117 5/8; No. 2 Hard Winter\*K.C. 108 1/2-111 1/4; Chi. 106 1/2-117 1/2; No. 3 S.R.Wr. St. Louis 105 1/2; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 83 1/2; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 48 5/8-49 5/8; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 64-65 1/2; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 56 1/4-59; St. Louis 57; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 25-26; K.C. 27 1/2; Chi. 27-28 3/8; No. 1 malting barley, Minneap. 56-68; No. 3 good malting, Minneap. 52-59; No. 2 barley, Minneap. 38-39; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. 180 1/2-186 1/2.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.50-\$1.80 per 100-pounds in eastern cities; mostly \$1.05 f.o.b. Presque Isle. New York sacked Round Whites \$1.50 in Baltimore. Wisconsin stock \$1.05-\$1.10 carlot sales in Chicago; and Idaho sacked Russet Burbanks \$1.75-\$1.77 1/2. New York Yellow Varieties of onions brought 85¢-\$1.25 per 50-pound sack in terminal markets; \$1.05-\$1.10 f.o.b. Rochester. Midwestern stock 90¢-\$1.10 in consuming canters. Eastern Shore Maryland and Delaware Jersey type sweet potatoes 75¢-\$1.15 per bushel basket in city markets. Tennessee Nancy Halls 75¢-85¢ in the Middle West. New York Danish type cabbage \$20 bulk per ton in New York City; \$12-\$14 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$1.25-\$1.75 per half-lettuce crate in city markets; 70¢-75¢ f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. New York U.S. #1, 2 1/2 inch minimum, McIntosh apples \$1.25-\$1.40; Rhode Island Greenings \$0.75-\$1 per bushel basket in New York City.

Average price of Middling 7/8 inch cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 11 points from the previous close to 11.51 cents per pound. On the same day last year, the price was 12.58 cents. December futures contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 16 points to 11.45 cents; and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 15 points to 11.50 cents.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 34 cents; 91 Score, 33 3/4 cents; 90 Score, 33 cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: S.Daisies, 18 1/2 cents; Y.Americas, 18 3/4 cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 31-33 1/2 cents; Standards, 28 1/2-29 1/2 cents; Firsts, 27 1/2 cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.

# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LIX, No. 68

Section 1

December 19, 1935

**LOWER INTEREST RATES URGED** The powerful Reconstruction Finance Corporation yesterday threw its resources into President Roosevelt's drive for lower interest rates with a government offer which, in effect, would underbid railroad bankers. Chairman Jesse Jones made public a letter in which the RFC agreed to take any amount unsold to the public of a \$100,000,000 issue of ten-year Great Northern Railway bonds--provided the interest rate is 4 percent. He informed W. P. Kenney, president of the railroad, that the RFC directors felt the road would be paying "entirely too much for the money" under a proposal of private bankers to underwrite the issue for a fee of approximately \$1,000,000 with the interest rate at 5 percent. (A.P.)

**U.S.-HONDURAS TRADE TREATY** A reciprocal trade agreement providing for mutual tariff concessions was signed yesterday by the United States and Honduras at Tegucigalpa, the eighth similar pact. American exports to Honduras for 1934 were estimated at \$6,000,000, a drop, the State Department said, from the \$13,000,000 figure of 1929. Under the treaty Honduras grants duty reductions on 17 commodities and guarantees not to increase those on 20 others, in addition to maintaining certain other articles on its free list. Embraced in these three concessions are American food products, manufactured goods and automobiles. The United States allows tariff cuts on a few products, chiefly tropical fruits and fruit preparations, but its principal concession is to keep on its free list primary Honduran exports, including bananas, coffee and cocoa beans. (A.P.)

**EXCESS BANK RESERVES** Governors of the 12 Federal Reserve Banks, after deliberating over the problem for two days, last night adjourned without making any recommendation regarding action to curb the amount of excess bank reserves, except to warn that the problem should have "unremitting study" in order that appropriate action may be taken when necessary. They indicated the situation at this time did not demand action. (Washington Post.)

**RECLAMATION PROJECTS** The Reclamation Bureau reported yesterday to Secretary Ickes that 23 contracts, representing \$9,856,606 of its \$115,000,000 program, were awarded during the first two weeks of December. A total of 11,700 men were at work on reclamation projects on December 15, with 23 more projects scheduled to get under way by January 15. The bureau has opened bids on five others, advertised bids on three more and prepared specifications for 20 others. (Press.)

**Veterinarians** "In another section of this issue," says the December and Public issue of the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Health Work Association, editorially, "is published a brief report of a postgraduate course in milk and meat inspection given by the division of veterinary science of Michigan State College for the particular benefit of the veterinarians of seven counties in the southwestern part of the state. The short course was arranged at the request of the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, in connection with the Michigan Community Health Project. Although the present Michigan requirements do not include a veterinarian in the setup of a county health department, it is beginning to be recognized that no program for community health can be complete unless the veterinarian is included...Some years ago, New Jersey took an advance step in recognizing the value of veterinary service in providing that a veterinarian should be included in the personnel of the State Department of Health. In other states, from time to time, veterinarians have acted as consultants to boards of health, and in a few of the large cities veterinarians have been members of municipal health bodies. But these cases have been entirely too few...The education and training of the veterinarian of today admirably equips him to play an important role in any health project, county, state or national in scope. He possesses a knowledge of the diseases of animals that are communicable to man that is not a part of the armamentarium of the man of any other training. The veterinarian is prepared to put this knowledge to practical use by way of safeguarding our food supplies, particularly meat and milk. This is something that is needed in our rural communities right now to even a greater degree than is the case in most of our large urban centers."

**Bankers Make** Minnesota farm extension leaders and farm-minded 4-H Club Drive bankers met recently to throw the full strength of the banking business behind Minnesota's 4-H club and county agent programs. It was revealed at the meeting that some 25 Minnesota counties are without county agents. As part of its first general movement behind boys' and girls' club projects the bankers decided to work for a county agent in every county, thus giving every county a competent, experienced, well-trained man to direct and coordinate the efforts of all farm-minded bankers and business interests. District members of the agricultural committee will direct activities in their respective territories, first, through group officers and then down through the smaller, more active, closer-to-the situation county units. (Commercial West, December 14.)

**Gopher Poisoning** "Pocket gopher poisoning is handled effectively and economically under the district plan in Malheur County, Oregon," says the Oregon Farmer (December 12), "where County Agent R. G. Larson has seen the poisoned acreage grow from 21,000 in 1930 to five times that much in 1935, at total cost of 4 cents per acre and to the entire satisfaction of irrigation farmers. 'The popularity of this method of control is increasing yearly,' Larson reports. 'District by district, definite results are noted after one or two years' operation, and practically without exception landowners are enthusiastic about it. Irrigation district managers report enormous savings in water cost after control,

and one farmer states that one man handled three or four heads of water where formerly two were required for one. It used to be that gopher mounds were everywhere, but now I have to hunt for them in the districts that have had one good going over. One man who wasn't even in a district--he was just on the verge of one--had his gopher killings reduced from 336 to 6 in two years.' , , , , "

Iowa                      Iowa pop corn growers are expected to benefit from the  
Pop Corn                  recent corn borer embargo which will prevent Ohio and Indiana growers from shipping their product into Iowa until their corn is thoroughly dry so that it can be shelled and cleaned before shipment. Corn borer infestation in Ohio has increased 300 percent this year, according to Dr. Carl Drake, Iowa entomologist. Dr. Drake says that where there were only seven to eight borers per hundred stalks in 1934, there were about 22 found this season. Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and Illinois are other mid-west states which are enforcing corn borer regulations. Some scarcity in pop corn supplies is expected to result from the ban because much of the crop produced in Iowa was frozen this fall. (Davenport Democrat, December 13.)

Argentine                  The minimum price for wheat and other important agricultural products recently established by the Argentine  
Wheat Policy              Government was not designed "to create artificial price levels or a false prosperity, but simply to keep the farmer in business and secure for him a decent subsistence," according to Ing. Luis Duhau, the Argentine Minister of Agriculture, in a statement recently in Buenos Aires, released through the Argentine Information Bureau. "Our minimum price system," the minister was quoted as saying, "has proved effective in keeping our grain growing and other primary agricultural industries alive through the depression without encouraging overproduction. If our harvest of wheat is below normal, it is entirely due to an exceptional drought, a phenomenon outside our control... Argentina has consistently disposed of its exportable surpluses without hoarding. The government is mindful of the advantages of the modern system of bulk transport and has devised a plan of country and terminal elevators whereby transport costs will be reduced. Furthermore, a grain classification system will be enforced and agricultural credits put on a solid basis. Our policy will never be one of hoarding grain. Our elevator system is intended to modernize transport and facilitate classification." (Press.)

Teak Grows                  Cuba may become one of the world's great teak-producing  
in Cuba                    areas, with important effects of her economic position as an export nation, as a result of the discovery at the Harvard Botanic Garden at Soledad, Cuba, that the valuable wood can be raised there easily under plantation conditions. Announcement of the discovery, the first successful attempt to grow teak economically in the West Indies, has been made by Prof. Thomas Barbour, director of the Harvard University Museum and custodian of the Botanic Garden in Cuba. According to tests conducted at the U.S. Forest Products Laboratory at Madison, Wisconsin, the Cuban wood is superior to the Asiatic variety in many of the qualities which make teak valuable. The experimental teak was raised on abandoned and exhausted sugarcane fields, but it grew at least as fast as plantation teak in the East. (Science Service.)

Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

December 18--Livestock at Chicago (Closing Quotations): Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice 9.00-13.50; cows good 5.75-6.50; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice 7.75-10.25; vealers good and choice 8.50-11.00; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good and choice 7.25-8.25. Hogs: 160-200 lbs good and choice 9.30-9.60; 200-250 lbs good and choice 9.40-9.60; 250-350 lbs good and choice 9.30-9.40; slaughter pigs 100-140 lbs good and choice 9.15-9.40. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down 10.30-11.25; feeding lambs range stock good and choice 9.25-10.25.

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. 123 1/8-125 1/8; No. 2 D.No.Spr.\*Minneap. 119 1/8-121 1/8; No. 2 Am.Durl\*Minneap. 98 7/8-102 7/8; No. 1 Durum, Duluth, 106 7/8-117 7/8; No. 2 Hard Winter\*K.C. 109-111 1/2; Chi. 107 1/2-119 3/4; No. 3 S.R.Wr. St. Louis 105 1/2-106 1/2; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 83 1/2; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 49-50; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 64-65 1/2; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 56 1/4-58 3/4; St. Louis 59-59 1/2; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 25 1/8-26 1/8; K.C. 27-28 1/4; Chi. 28-29 1/2; St. Louis 29 1/2; No. 1 malting barley, Minneap. 66-68; No. 3 good malting, Minneap. 52-59; No. 2, Minneap. 38-39; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. 181 1/4-187 1/4.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.60-\$1.80 per 100-pounds in eastern cities; \$0.95-\$1 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.05-\$1.12 1/2 carlot sales in Chicago and Idaho sacked Russet Burbanks \$1.70; \$1 f.o.b. Idaho Falls. New York Yellow Varieties of onions sold at \$1-\$1.15 per 50-pound sack in terminal markets; \$1-\$1.10 f.o.b. Rochester. Midwestern stock 90¢-\$1.10 in a few cities; 90¢-\$1 f.o.b. Grand Rapids. New York Danish type cabbage \$20 bulk per ton in New York City; \$14 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$1.25-\$1.62 1/2 per half-lettuce crate in city markets; 70¢-75¢ f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley Points. Delaware and East Shore Maryland Jersey type sweet potatoes 75¢-\$1.15 per bushel basket in the East. Tennessee Nancy Halls 75¢-85¢ in the Middle West. New York, U.S. #1, 2 1/2 inch minimum, McIntosh apples \$1.20-\$1.40 Baldwins \$1 and Delicious \$1.25-\$1.37 1/2 per bushel basket in New York City.

Average price of Middling 7/8 inch cotton in 10 designated markets declined 5 points from the previous close to 11.46 cents per pound. On the same day last year, the price was 12.58 cents. December futures contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 6 points to 11.39 cents; and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 10 points to 11.40 cents.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 34 cents; 91 Score, 33 1/2 cents; 90 Score, 32 3/4 cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: S.Daisies, 18 1/2 cents; Y.Americas, 18 3/4 cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 31-32 1/2 cents; Standards, 28-29 1/2 cents; Firsts, 27-27 1/2 cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIX, No. 69

Section 1

December 20, 1935

**STANDARD OIL PENSION PLAN** The Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, with 50,000 employees in the United States, will put into effect within the next few weeks a new thrift plan through which its employees will be able to supplement federal old-age payments, according to an announcement by the company. This is one of the first of the country's large industrial units to work out a pension plan taking into consideration the enactment of the social security act at the last session of Congress. (Press.)

**WOOL ORDERS AT RECORD HIGH** New business in wool goods has slackened off somewhat, but this "is only a seasonal condition and of no particular concern to mills, since unfilled orders on the books remain of record-breaking proportions," says the New York Wool Top Exchange Service. "Unfilled orders have been estimated by merchants at 45,000,000 linear yards." (Press.)

**NETHERLANDS TRADE PACT** The State Department yesterday announced that a new reciprocal trade pact would be signed today--with The Netherlands. The Netherlands agreement to be signed today will be the ninth negotiated under the reciprocal tariff law of 1934. The eighth--with Honduras--was announced Wednesday. (A.P.)

**BUSINESS ACTIVITY** A further improvement in the heavy industries last month carried business activity to the highest level since August 1930, and above the speculative peak of July 1933, according to the monthly business index of The Annalist to be published today. The index now stands at 90.3 percent of estimated normal, compared with 87.4 in October and 83.6 in September. Since the start of the current recovery in June, it has risen 11 points and by last month had recovered 55 percent of the loss between the 1929 high of 116.7 and the depression low of 58.4. (Press.)

**R.R. OWNERSHIP** Government ownership of railroads was urged last night by the Railroad Labor Executives Association as "the only way out of the morass in which the roads have been placed by the bankers." (A.P.)

Highway Research                "Technical advance in the road field is gratifyingly active," says Engineering News-Record (December 12) editorially. "The discussions before the Highway Research Board at its meeting recently indicated a progressive attack on the problems of design and construction, and while most of the items of new knowledge brought forward represent refinement of detail rather than a breaking of new pathways they constitute progress of a kind essential to best road service at lowest cost. In particular the unremitting study that is being given to the substructure of the road is the researcher's response to urgent needs of the field. Service facts are showing with increasing force that the pavement, both body and wearing surface, is far ahead of the underlying foundation structure in its engineering development. Studies of soil stabilization, of moisture and frost phenomena, or of fill failures, deal with widely felt weaknesses of the roadbuilding art. In due course it may be expected that fill consolidation and compacting will also receive closer scrutiny, since there are few road fills that do not lead the passing traveler to wonder if adoption of dam-building practice by the roadbuilder might not be a paying investment."

Storage of Butter Contest        "The ingoing and outgoing scores of the 320 tubs of butter entered in the 1935 National Creamery Buttermakers Association storage butter contest offer an interesting study," says an editorial in American Creamery and Poultry Produce Review (December 11). "The butter was first scored in June, was put in storage, and rescored in October, presumably on the same basis of scoring as used in June. From the records as submitted by A. J. Rudnik, secretary of the association, we find that the October average score of the 320 tubs was actually .019 point higher than the June score. In other words, while the differences between ingoing and outgoing tubs of butter varied widely, the average front-rank American buttermaker is able to make a piece of butter today which, on the average, can maintain its original quality and flavor for the period covered by this contest...In these storage butter contests no information is given out as to the temperatures at which the butter is held from June to October. Presumably the temperatures are sub-zero, Another year it would be interesting to divide the exhibit according to initial scores and carry the two lots at different temperatures, partly at least at the -18° temperatures now being used by some..."

Air and Preservation of Books        The condition of the air in libraries has been found by the National Bureau of Standards to be a vital factor in preserving important reference material, says a press report. A recent survey of the condition of books and manuscripts stored in a number of large libraries revealed that high temperature and extreme dryness or wetness of the air were deteriorative influences, according to the Technical News Bulletin. There were indications that acidic sulphur dioxide gas from the combustion of fuels in congested areas also was a destructive agent. The Bureau of Standards says that if the value of the stored material warrants it, the temperature and relative humidity of library air should be controlled within suitable limits and that the air be washed with alkaline water to remove acidic gases and dirt.

### Crater Lake Park Road

Approval has been given by the Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes, for revision of a highway in Crater Lake National Park, Oregon, funds for one-half of which already are available. The road will supplant the inadequate one which now connects Kerr Notch with the park headquarters, closely following part of its route. Rim Drive, circling the famous lake of mysterious blue which gives its name to Crater Lake National Park, is one of the most spectacular motor highways in the world. It is fed by four entrance roads entering from the north, south, east and west. Comparatively few visitors utilize the east entrance, however, and indications point to even less traffic from that direction in the future. Hence the conditioning of Kerr Notch to government headquarters route will not only facilitate general park travel, but will lessen the total amount of roadway now required to be maintained within Crater Lake National Park. Completion of the plans is being expedited so that construction may be well under way by next spring. (Department of the Interior.)

### Useful Weeds

Dayton, Ohio, furnishes an example of utilizing weeds, says the Providence Journal (December 16). The huge Ohio conservancy dams north of the city were faced by bare clay slopes, which were subject to erosion by rain and frost. They were planted with the weediest mixture of grass and clover seed that could be found. The weedy rabble started in at once to hold down the soil. Their high-toned companions followed more slowly and are now in full possession of the slope, which they could not have been but for the pioneering efforts of the hardier weeds. Prof. Paul B. Sears, botanist of the University of Oklahoma, proposes that we take advantage of this principle of the survival of the toughest in reclaiming the newly formed deserts of the drought-afflicted, wind-ravaged West. He would not attempt to start reclamation with costly and tender grass seed alone. He would mix in a goodly proportion of weed seeds. They will grow whether the grass does nor not and will hold down what is left of the soil, so finally making possible more desirable crops.

### Danish Red Cattle

A new breed of dairy cattle, developed within the last 50 years, is to be used in breeding experiments by the Waseca branch of the Minnesota Experiment Station, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, says the Stewart (Minn.) Tribune (December 13). The cattle came originally from Denmark, but the 22 heifers and 2 bulls to be used in the Waseca experiments were imported from the Virgin Islands. They are known as Danish Red and rose from a foundation of native Scandinavian red cattle, improved with selections from the leading breeds of continental Europe.

### Boulder Dam

Boulder Dam completed during 1935 has already prevented one menacing flood in the Imperial Valley of California, it was revealed in the annual report of the Secretary of the Interior. Shortly after the gates of the dam were closed, says the report, a flood level flow of 105,000 cubic feet per second of water raged in the Colorado above the dam. Had this water passed on, the Imperial Valley would have been menaced. Boulder Dam will make impossible a repetition of the 1934 disastrous drought in the Imperial Valley which cost the region over \$10,000,000. (Science Service.)

Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

December 19--Livestock at Chicago (Closing Quotations): Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice 9.25-13.50; cows good 5.75-6.75; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice 7.75-10.25; vealers good and choice 8.25-11.00; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good and choice 7.25-8.25. Hogs: 160-200 lbs good and choice 9.35-9.70; 200-250 lbs good and choice 9.45-9.70; 250-350 lbs good and choice 9.10-9.70; slaughter pigs 100-140 lbs good and choice 9.25-9.50. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down 10.30-11.40; feeding lambs range stock good and choice 9.25-10.25.

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. 123 5/8-125 5/8; No. 2 D. No.Spr.\*Minneap. 119 5/8-121 5/8; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap. 99 3/8-103 3/8; No. 1 Durum, Duluth, 107 3/8-118 3/8; No. 2 Hard Winter\*K.C. 108 1/4-111 1/4; Chi. 106 1/2-119; No. 3 Soft Red Winter St. Louis 105 1/2-106; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 84; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 49-50; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 63-64; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 56 1/4-58 3/4; St. Louis 59 1/2; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 25 1/4-26 1/4; K.C. 27-28 1/2; Chi. 28 1/4-29 1/2; St. Louis 29; No. 1 malting barley, Minneap. 66-68; No. 3 good malting, Minneap. 52-59; No. 2 barley, Minneap. 38-39; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. 181 3/4-187 3/4.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.50-\$1.80 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; few \$1 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.12 1/2 carlot sales in Chicago. Idaho sacked Russet Burbanks fine quality \$1.85 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1 f.o.b. Idaho Falls. New York Yellow Varieties of onions brought 75¢-\$1.15 per 50-pound sack in terminal markets; \$1-\$1.08 f.o.b. Rochester. Mid-western stock 85¢-\$1.10 in consuming centers. New York Danish type cabbage \$20 bulk per ton in New York City; one car \$13 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$1.25-\$1.62 1/2 per half-lettuce crate in city markets; 70¢-75¢ f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley Points. Maryland and Delaware Jersey type sweet potatoes 75¢-\$1.15 per bushel basket in eastern markets. Tennessee Nancy Halls 75¢-90¢ per hamper in the Middle West. New York, U.S. #1, 2 1/2 inch minimum, McIntosh apples \$1.25-\$1.40 and Rhode Island Greenings 90¢-\$1 per bushel basket in New York City.

Average price of Middling 7/8 inch cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 4 points from the previous close to 11.50 cents. On the same day last year, the price was 12.58 cents. December futures contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 7 points to 11.46 cents; and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 7 points to 11.47 cents.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 34 1/4 cents; 91 Score, 33 1/2 cents; 90 Score, 33 cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: S. Daisies, 18 1/4-18 1/2 cents; Y.Americas, 18 3/4 cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 28-30 cents; Standards, 27 1/2 cents; Firsts, 25-26 cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.

# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LIX, No. 70

Section 1

December 21, 1935

## R.R. RATES FOR TEXTILES

The Interstate Commerce Commission authorized a broad readjustment of rates on cotton, woolen and knitting factory products in all territory east of the Rocky Mountains. Of primary importance were new rates authorized from northern and southern points to midwest destinations. The commission expressed the opinion that a differential relationship between southern and northern rates was not prejudicial to interstate commerce. (A.B.)

## WILD LIFE CONFERENCE CALLED

President Roosevelt announced yesterday he had called a conference on preservation of wild life to meet in Washington February 3 to 7. He asked each state to send twice as many delegates as they have Senators and Representatives, bring the attendance to 1,064. Representatives may be present from Canada and Mexico. In calling the conference the President followed the suggestion of J. N. "Ding" Darling, noted cartoonist, who recently resigned as chief of the Biological Survey. (Washington Post.)

## APPLE RUST CAMPAIGN

Fruit growers at Martinsburg, W. Va., were advised yesterday by West Virginia WPA Administrator F. Witcher McCullough at Charleston that projects for elimination of apple rust in Jefferson, Hampshire, Berkeley, Grant, Mineral and Morgan Counties were started Wednesday. This work was in response to the petition of apple growers' associations and independent growers of the counties and the State Department of Agriculture. The rust, the department says, is propagated by red cedar trees. (Washington Post.)

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS SCHOLARSHIPS

To permit 50 young university graduates each year to come to Washington to work in government departments and learn the technique of administration, the Rockefeller Foundation has given the privately organized National Institute of Public Affairs an \$80,000 income for three years. The gift was revealed last night by Frederick M. Davenport, chairman of the institute and former Republican member of the House from New York, who said: "It seems to be a rising trend. Throughout the nation, people appear to be coming to the conclusion that the increasing complexity of government is requiring greater capacity for administration--and, therefore, greater technical training." (Washington Post.)

Extension Work in Texas      "An advance report on what has been done on Texas farms during 1935 was made recently by H. H. Williamson, director of the Texas A. & M. College Extension Service, and it shows that many things have been accomplished by farmers of the state," says the Texas Weekly (December 7). "The Extension Service deserves no small amount of credit for the part it has had in aiding farmers in their various activities. Certain it is that throughout this year the Extension Service has exercised to the limit its power of publicizing the needs of Texas farmers, and there can be no question as to the large part it has had in adding to the 1935 accomplishments of agriculture in the state...The report of what farmers have done this year is of more than ordinary interest...Approximately 47,000 home demonstration club women and girls have a record of 28,119,42½ containers of food already on their pantry shelves. In 127 counties, a total of 27,949 club women and girls were enrolled as home demonstrators and cooperators. In 61 counties, 21,253 club women and girls have worked at landscaping farmsteads...More than 24,000 club women and girls in 107 counties are working as wardrobe demonstrators and cooperators in making their own clothes. More than 4,000 horticultural demonstrations and 25,000 cooperating men and women influenced other citizens to increase the value, productivity and profits of truck crops, orchards and home gardens. This is another activity...that might well be termed a part of the long-range planning program for Texas agriculture..."

Daffodil Rash      "...Pollen may be the cause of a severer form of dermatitis than that which results from contact with the sap of daffodils and tulips," says the Gardeners' Chronicle (London) for November 30. "...The hands can best be protected by the use of an ointment or a 'cream'...The pollen and sap of the flowers are capable of causing dermatitis through entering cuts or sores, and it is very important not to rub the eyes with the fingers while handling flowers, especially if the flowers are matured and shedding their pollen. Exceptionally sensitive workers have found it desirable to wear goggles while handling flowers that are shedding pollen...The affected parts should not be washed in soap and water, while carbolic or lysol lotions will make the conditions worse. Oil or a soothing ointment, such as one composed of lanoline and castor oil, may be applied..."

Billboards and Landscapes      "Comparatively little has been said of the inconsistency between billboards and highway beautification; and in most states the two flit side by side or in annoying sequence past the eye of the motorist," says an editorial in Roads and Streets (December). "That billboards are ugly will be denied by no one except those financially interested...A few far-seeing corporations already have stopped their billboard advertising and others undoubtedly will follow suit, but many will refuse to give up what they consider a good advertising medium. These latter should be restricted by law as far as can be done under the Constitution...The CCC and other relief organizations, as well as permanent state and county forces, have done much to improve the

appearance of our roadsides, and if such work is warranted as a public benefit, it seems clear that the removal of the signs is even better warranted, for they are the commonest and very nearly the grossest of landscape blots."

Civil Service            Legislation to provide for inclusion under the Civil Commission            Service and Classification Act of recently created agencies which are to become permanent, and extension of the Annual Report            scope of the classification act to include positions in the field service, numbering about 100,000, the salaries of which are not fixed by specific legislative schedule or wage board method, are among the recommendations made by the Civil Service Commission in its fifty-second annual report this week. During the fiscal year the number of civilian employees in the executive branch rose from 673,095 to 719,440, an increase of 7 percent. Of the 46,345 new positions, only 4,636 were in the competitive classified service. "The increase of 41,709 positions outside the competitive classified service," the report states, "was due largely to the creation, principally by law, of new agencies which were exempted from the provisions of the civil service law and to the allotment of 'emergency' funds to regular government establishments, employees paid from such funds being outside the classified service as provided by Congress..." Several recommendations in regard to retirement are included in the commission's report. Centralization in the commission's office of all retirement accounts for all branches of the service is urged; establishment of a uniform optional retirement age of 60 years after 30 years of service, the option to be exercised either by the government or the employee; annuity provision for employees retired because of physical disability who recover before reaching the automatic retirement age and who fail of reinstatement through no fault of their own within the 90-day limit provided by law; the broadening of retirement benefits so as to permit an employee to elect a reduced annuity in order that payments may be continued on a reduced basis to a surviving dependent, and amendment of the law to permit voluntary contributions to the retirement fund in specified and limited amounts, in addition to the regular contributions, to be used for the purpose of augmenting retirement benefits where advocated. (New York Times.)

Wisconsin Dairy            "Wisconsin's dairy plan to improve its dairy products, Inspection            discussed editorially in the September issue of Southern Dairy Products Journal," says the December number, "has become an established fact. With \$412,155 of federal funds and under the direction of Terence McCabe, who has been in charge of making the preliminary set-up, a force of 155 dairy inspectors has been procured. These inspectors will make Babcock, bacterial, lactometer, methylene blue and sediment tests on milk brought to processing plants throughout the state. These tests will be studied and milk which falls below the departmental standards will be referred to a group of 185 farm inspectors who will visit the farms from which the milk comes, making recommendations for its improvement. A central office for the inspection forces will be maintained at Madison...Where farmers refuse to cooperate with the new forces or accept their suggestions, regular state inspectors will be called into action."



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Vol. LIX, No. 71

Section 1

December 23, 1935

## NATIONAL PLANNING

The National Resources Committee recommended yesterday that the United States be divided into regions for the purpose of national planning. Each region, according to the recommendation, would have a planning commission representing state planning boards with a chairman representing the national planning boards. The recommendation suggests that these boards be advisory rather than operating agencies. "Regionalism," the report said, "is not to be confused with sectionalism." (Press.)

## BUYING UNDER WPA

Materials bought for the WPA program have cost the government \$68,974,161 to date, it was revealed yesterday by a Treasury procurement official, who remarked, "we have just started buying." Materials for the WPA part of the work relief program alone will require the expenditure of more than \$400,000,000. What he termed "The largest peace-time buying by the government in the history of the country" is moving rapidly to a peak and is certain to "stimulate industry", C. R. Eagle of the Treasury Procurement Division declared. (New York Times.)

## ARGENTINE CROP ESTIMATE

A Buenos Aires cable to the New York Times says the Argentine Government's crop estimates indicate that Argentina will have only 64,000,000 bushels of wheat for export in 1936 compared with 143,000,000 exported to date this year. Argentina exported 172,000,000 bushels of wheat in 1934 and 142,000,000 in 1933. Since the annual exports to Brazil and other South American republics average 36,000,000, it is probable that only about 26,000,000 bushels of Argentine wheat will enter the European markets in the coming year.

## NOVEMBER EXPORTS UP

United States exports in November, totaling \$269,400,000, were 22 percent larger than those in the preceding month and 38 percent larger than in November 1934. The gain was especially significant because there is a normal seasonal decline of 6 percent in our exports at this time of year. Larger shipments of cotton, automobiles and petroleum were responsible for the improvement, experts of the Commerce Department said in making public the figures. (Press.)

Potato                    The Gardeners' Chronicle (London) for November 30 says  
Exploration            editorially: "...Dr. Salaman, who has himself done so much  
to preserve the potato from its virus enemies...tells us  
(Russian Research on the Potato, Cambridge University Agricultural Society's  
Magazine, 1935, p. 22) that Russians have been at work among the native  
potato population of South America...Their preliminary explorations have  
shown that the potato family from which our tubers may have come lives  
mainly in two areas, one in Bolivia and one in south Chile...The Russians  
have found and brought home and are growing many varieties of tuber-bearing  
potatoes with sturdier virtues than are possessed by any kinds which are  
now growing with us. There are both wild and cultivated forms which resist  
blight (*Phytophthora infestans*). There are kinds living 15,000 feet above  
sea level, which quite comfortably withstand temperatures which would make  
mud of our tubers. Such a one is the euphemistically named *Solanum Juzepc-  
sukii*. Another, a wild one, *S. Acaule*, withstands over 30 degrees of frost.  
Yet another, *S. Rybinii*, a wild species, is claimed to resist virus disease..."

Texas Boys'            Booth Mooney, associate editor, Texas Weekly, reports  
Stock Show            in the December 7 issue that "a fat stock show for boys is  
to be held in San Antonio in February when the first annual  
Southwest Texas Boys Fat Stock Show is scheduled. More than \$1,000 in  
cash prizes will be awarded to 4-H club boys and vocational agriculture  
students at the show, which recently was enlarged to include classes for  
milk-fed calves, dry lot feed cattle and C type Angora goats. This show  
at San Antonio will be the only feeding project show exclusively for boys  
in the Southwest, it is stated by the sponsors, the South Texas Chamber of  
Commerce and the Union Stockyards Company...It is said that young farm boys  
through the southwestern part of Texas are making preparations to enter  
livestock in the various classes open at the show and, in our opinion, it  
is a good sign for the future of quality livestock in Texas when boys are  
given an opportunity like this to show what they have been able to do in  
raising high grade stock..."

New York Cheese        "A new line of cheese investigations got under way at  
Investigations        the New York Experiment Station (Geneva) in December when  
Federal funds became available for studies of the micro-  
biological flora of surface-ripened cheeses, such as limburger, Oka and  
brick, according to an announcement by Dr. U. P. Hedrick, station director,"  
reports the National Butter and Cheese Journal (December 10). "The project  
will be developed by the division of bacteriology with assistance from the  
dairy division. 'The objective at present,' says Dr. Hedrick, 'is to work  
out the relations between the growth of micro-organisms and the ripening  
of cheese. It is expected that it can be developed later to include a  
study of methods of correcting defects in present methods of manufacture,  
and to aid in the development of new types of surface-ripened cheese. It  
is proposed to secure material for study from available limburger and brick  
factories, and to utilize the opportunity to study the ripened changes of  
Oka and similar types of cheese now being made in an experimental way by  
the dairy division.'...Many cheese companies are interested in development  
of new cheeses of these types, but lack facilities for making fundamental  
studies of the microflora involved in their ripening..."

October World trade in October reached the highest monthly total since the depression set in, according to provisional estimates, including final figures from nearly all the important countries, published in the monthly statistics bulletin of the League of Nations this month. Measured in the old gold dollar, world imports in October totaled \$1,055,000,000, against \$1,008,000,000 last year and \$936,000,000 in September. Exports totaled \$1,040,000,000, against \$968,000,000 and \$929,000,000. Imports, however, remained only 37 percent of the 1929 monthly average, and exports 39 percent. The rise was widespread. The American<sup>and</sup> British increases in both exports and imports were among the greatest. (New York Times.)

Heat-Insulated Greenhouse "...Little attention has been given to fundamental changes in greenhouses; most greenhouses involve the same general principles in use a hundred years ago," says Lawrence C. Porter, author of "A Heat Insulated Greenhouse" in Agricultural Engineering (December). "...Last year a radical departure from common practice was tried out at the Boyce Thompson Institute of Plant Research... a greenhouse was constructed having its sides, ends, floor and half of the roof made of large panes of glass 24 inches wide by 32 inches long set in putty and pointed to form airtight joints. In order to admit the maximum amount of light during the winter months when daylight and sun intensities are lowest, the sash was set at an angle of 52 1/2 degrees to the horizontal. This setting places the glass in a position normal to the sun's rays at noon half way between the autumnal equinox and winter solstice and again between the winter solstice and the vernal equinox, i.e., on November 5 and February 5. In order to utilize the natural light to maximum advantage, the entire inside of the house was painted white. The house was equipped with 300-watt lamps, and the heat from these lamps was the only heating aside from the radiant energy of the sun used in the house. The lamps were controlled by a thermostat set to maintain the temperature between 62 and 68 degrees F.....In general the total lighted period was about four hours in each twenty-four... Various flowers were raised in this house in comparison with similar plants raised in a conventional all-glass type of greenhouse. The plants in the heat-insulated greenhouse grew larger and faster than the controls. Snapdragons, for example, bloomed 8 weeks earlier in the heat-insulated house. The dry weight of buckwheat plants grown between December 10 and January 25 was almost three times that of similar plants raised in a regular greenhouse..."

Candling of Eggs The American Creamery & Produce Review (December 18) says editorially: "The Review is glad to present in this issue a full report on recent investigations by Prof. H. E. Botsford of Cornell University to determine more exactly the relation of the candling appearance of eggs to their broken-out appearance... The importance to egg producers and distributors of the fullest possible knowledge of the relation of each factor in candling appearance to the acceptability of the contents of the egg for uses as food cannot be overstated. Increasing regulations by state agencies based on candling appearance make it imperative that the measuring sticks used to grade eggs be reasonably accurate as indicators of relative consumer satisfaction..."

Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

December 20--Livestock at Chicago (Closing Quotations): Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice 9.25-13.50; cows good 5.75-6.75; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice 7.75-10.25; vealers good and choice 8.25-11.00; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good and choice 7.25-8.25. Hogs: 160-200 lbs good and choice 9.40-9.65; 200-250 lbs good and choice 9.40-9.65; 250-350 lbs good and choice 9.10-9.60; slaughter pigs 100-140 lbs good and choice 9.25-9.50. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down 10.30-11.35; feeding lambs range stock good and choice 9.25-10.25.

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. 123 5/8-125 5/8; No. 2 D. No. Spr.\*Minneap. 119 5/8-121 5/8; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap. 99 3/8-103 3/8; No. 1 Durum, Duluth, 107 3/8-118 3/8; No. 2 Hard Winter\*K.C. 109 1/2-112; Chi. 107 1/4-119 3/4; No. 2 Red Winter St. Louis 107 1/2; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 84 1/2; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 49 5/8-50 5/8; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 62 1/2-63 1/2; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 56 3/4-58 1/2; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 25 1/4-26 1/4; K.C. 27 1/2; Chi. 28 1/2-30; No. 1 malting barley, Minneap. 68-70; No. 3 good malting, Minneap. 54-61; No. 2 barley, Minneap. 38-39; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. 182 1/4-188 1/4.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.50-\$1.80 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; 95¢-\$1 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites late sales Thursday \$1.05-\$1.10 carlot sales in Chicago; 90¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. Idaho sacked Russet Burbanks \$1.75-\$1.85 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1 f.o.b. Idaho Falls. New York Yellow Varieties of onions brought 75¢-\$1.15 per 50-pound sack in the East; 90¢-\$1 f.o.b. Rochester. Midwestern stock 85¢-\$1.10 in consuming centers; 90¢-\$1 f.o.b. West Michigan points. East Shore Virginia Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1.50 per stave barrel in New York. Delaware and Maryland stock 60¢-\$1.15 per bushel basket in terminal markets. Tennessee Nancy Halls 80-85¢ in the Middle West. New York Danish type cabbage \$20 bulk per ton in New York City; \$13-\$14 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$1.15-\$1.50 per 1/2 lettuce crate in city markets; 65¢-75¢ f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley Points. New York McIntosh apples, U.S. #1, 2 1/2 inch minimum, \$1.12 1/2-\$1.37 1/2 and Baldwins 75¢-85¢ per bushel basket in New York City.

Average price of Middling 7/8 inch cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 6 points from the previous close to 11.56 cents per pound. On the same day last year, the price was 12.60 cents. December futures contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 10 points to 11.56 cents; and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 11 points to 11.58 cents.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 34 1/4 cents; 91 Score, 33 3/4 cents; 90 Score, 33 1/4 cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: S.Daisies, 18 1/4-18 1/2 cents; Y.Americas, 18 3/4 cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 28-30 cents; Standards, 27 1/2 cents; Firsts, 25-26 cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LIX, No. 72

Section 1

December 24, 1935

## BANKING FUNCTIONS

An organized effort to return to private agencies many banking functions now being undertaken by the government was reported to President Roosevelt yesterday by a spokesman for the nation's bankers. Upon leaving the White House, Robert V. Fleming, president of the American Bankers Association, said he had outlined plans for a series of regional conferences to this end. Fleming said the regional conferences of bankers would consider the question of taking over the banking functions of the government along with a general study of services that banks can perform under the new laws and regulations. (A.P.)

## ADVISE ICC REORGANIZATION

Transportation Coordinator Joseph B. Eastman, it was revealed yesterday, is drafting new recommendations for a broad reorganization of the Interstate Commerce Commission. The recommendations were reported reliably to call for an increase in membership and a sharper division of duties to aid the handling of new transportation problems. (A.P.)

## PRESIDENT ENDS NRA

The NRA, once most important of New Deal recovery organizations, was terminated by President Roosevelt yesterday. An executive order divided the duties of the old Blue Eagle between the Labor and Commerce Departments with the stipulation that these activities shall terminate April 1. Transferred to the Labor Department, where Secretary Perkins was given complete control over its activities, was the consumers division, which employs fewer than 30 persons. The remainder of the staff was transferred to the Commerce Department, where it is expected to be liquidated rapidly. (Washington Post.)

## BUSINESS ACTIVITY

The general improvement in business activity, which has been noted during the past five months, continued through November and the first half of December, according to the regular monthly survey of business conditions by the National Industrial Conference Board. More than seasonal increases were made in November, compared with October, in motor vehicle production and sales, in steel production, in electric power output and in retail trade. Retail prices and the cost of living also continued their upward movement during November. (Press.)

American-Canadian Trade "It is not yet possible to estimate the full effects of the American-Canadian trade agreement which was signed recently," says the New Statesman and Nation (London) in an editorial in the November 23 issue. "On the face of the matter it looks as if Canada has conceded more than the United States; for the admission of American goods at intermediate tariff rates is likely to be of considerable help to America in competition with British as well as foreign manufacturers. On the other hand, the American concessions to the Canadian exporters are limited to definite quantities of the goods now to be admitted on more favourable terms, and these quantities are for the most part not very large in relation to the total consuming power of the American market...At any rate a beginning has been made, and the President has made use of the powers conferred upon him by Congress to make a move towards a more liberal commercial policy. In a world so tariff-ridden as the world of 1935 that is a good deal; and both Mr. King and Mr. Roosevelt, as well as the rest of us, have cause to be reasonably well satisfied. Even British manufacturers who may expect some intensification of American competition in Canada, now that the British preference is to be narrowed, will probably for the most part think the risk worth while, for the sake of the impetus given by the agreement to more liberal trade policies in the world as a whole."

Nondehiscent Lily Patent "The General Electric Company is invading a new field in the Government Patent Office; C. N. Moore, of the G-E Research Laboratory, has applied for a patent on a 'nondehiscent regal lily'," says Scientific American (January). "This means that the anthers of the flower do not open and shed their pollen...In the spring of 1931 Mr. Moore, investigating biological effects of rays, treated bulbs of regal lilies with varying doses of the rays...The second season...progeny of two of the bulbs that had received 30-minute doses of X-rays produced flowers with non-shedding anthers. Each succeeding year has seen the new strain continue true...The nondehiscent regal lily is but one of a multitude of biological changes which have been effected in the G-E Research Laboratory with X-rays and cathode rays. Abnormalities of many kinds have been observed in a wide variety of plants, but the new variety of the regal lily is the first to which the phrase 'patent applied for' has been appended."

Wood Petrification Process A process which practically petrifies wood is reported to have been developed in Germany, according to a report from the American consulate general, Berlin, to the Commerce Department. This method of impregnation, the report states, deposits stony substance in the cells of soft and hard woods in such large quantities that one can actually speak of a petrification of the wood. Its increase in weight amounts up to 20 percent of the original weight. Shrinkage is eliminated through this process without influencing the wood's texture. The wood remains fully constant during changes between wetness and dryness. Its hardness is greatly increased. Green lumber can be used prematurely for building purposes of all kinds after being treated. By the addition of coloring mediums during the impregnation, any desired shade of color may be attained. The addition of certain chemicals during impregnation makes the lumber resistant to attacks by insects, such as termites and wood beetles.

Regional  
Planning

C. Herman Pritchett writes in *Social Forces* (December) on "Regional Authorities Through Interstate Compacts." He says in part in the concluding section: "There are certain regions in the United States which seem eminently fitted for the establishment of interstate authorities. Of these the Columbia River Basin is outstanding. The power projects at Grand Coulee and Bonneville presage a regional development that will need forethought and planning. The people in that area have a high level of political intelligence and the tradition of cooperation is well developed. Since efforts to have the federal government set up an authority for that region have thus far met with no success, consideration might well be given to an interstate authority...The menace of a vast bureaucracy in Washington has been overdrawn by those with selfish interests to serve. But it is possible to take a sensible view of the problem of overcentralization and to urge that regional problems be handled on a regional basis. The region has remained largely unused in the United States because of a lack of political inventiveness and a hesitation to strike into unaccustomed territory. The false dualism of state and nation has resulted in throwing upon the federal government all problems too big for the states. The establishment of regional mechanisms would serve to counterbalance this process and to promote a rational distribution of functions among the public agencies of this country. Regional authorities through interstate compacts are clearly indicated as the next field for experimentation in regional planning."

Animal  
Disease  
Statistics

"In 1858, an agricultural report stated that from 30 to 80 percent of all the hogs in New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio died of cholera," says *Veterinary Medicine* (January). "For 1877, the same report set the total loss from hog cholera at \$100,000,000. A report dated 1895 gives the losses from hog cholera in Nebraska as \$31,000,000...The figures are just guesses and the figurers guessers, since there never has been a veterinary service in any of these states well enough organized to put even good guesses on the adding machine... A prominent figure in the federal service said that 'you can't put out a fire until you know where it is.' Except for Bang's disease and tuberculosis nobody can do more than guess at the location of animal disease in this country or its amount. The Eastern Iowa Veterinary Association has shown that records of animal morbidity and mortality are not unattainable. Through the cooperation of its members, such records have been collected in its territory for a decade. They are not complete, since the facts must be supplied by volunteers...but so far as they go they are dependable. Were the national veterinary association to perform the same service for the country as a whole, data of inestimable value to animal husbandry and important to the veterinary profession could be assembled..."

Ionization  
of Animals  
and Crops

*Agricultural Engineering* (December) contains "Ionization of Farm Animals and Crops" by J. W. Pincus, international consulting agriculturist. "The utilization of electricity for ionizing the air has received more attention in Russia than in any other country," he says. "This is due to the indefatigable efforts of a Russian scientist, Prof. A. L. Tchijevsky. Some of his interesting conclusions on the use of ionized air upon domestic animals are given here..."

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[illegible]

1. 1990年12月15日，在“九七”香港回归前，香港各界正积极筹备迎接香港回归祖国。

# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LIX, No. 73

Section 1

December 26, 1935

**MOTOR VEHICLE CERTIFICATES** Twelve hundred bus and truck operators--the vanguard of a flood of more than 200,000--have already filed applications with the Interstate Commerce Commission for certificates to operate as required by the motor vehicle act passed by the last Congress. Pending the shower of 200,000 applications for certificates and affidavits of rate schedules, the commission is busy breaking in a skeleton organization to supervise a transportation system which, in many ways, is far more complex than anything they have ever regulated before. (Press.)

**CCC REDUCED FOREST FIRES** Reviewing activities of the Civilian Conservation Corps during 1935, Robert Fechner, director of emergency conservation work, said yesterday that the CCC had played a large part in reducing forest fire losses. Fechner said the Forest Service had reported fire losses were among the lowest on record. "The presence in the woods during the fire seasons of hundreds of thousands of CCC men, all of them available at a moment's notice for fire fighting, has also been a big factor in enabling the services charged with administering timbered areas to reach fires quickly and extinguish them promptly." (A.P.)

**FARM EXPORTS** A slight improvement during the third quarter of 1935 in American farm exports, despite political unrest and trade restrictions abroad, was noted yesterday in a foreign trade analysis by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. A heavier demand for cotton, tobacco, barley, rice, citrus and canned fruits and sugar was credited with raising farm exports to 28.4 percent of the total goods shipped abroad. (A.P.)

**RAILROAD RECOVERY** "Railroads in the past year slowly emerged from depression lethargy and high officials looking into the new year foresee continuation of the recovery process," says Rader Winget, Associated Press financial writer. "In the forefront as an index of advancement are carloadings which in 50 weeks of 1935 amounted to 30,-452,160 cars, an increase of 2.1 percent over the same period of 1934. That movement of freight did two things; it increased gross revenue and it wore out equipment...During the 10-month period, class 1 roads spent nearly 7 percent more on maintenance of way and structure and over 4 percent more on maintenance of equipment, including depreciation and retirement, than for the same months of 1934..."

Frost Chaser            "A mechanical frost dispeller is a typical example of  
for Orchards            new equipment found in a limited number of California  
                         orchards," reports the January issue of Scientific American.  
"It is installed on the ranch of A. H. and R. W. Hills in the Porterville  
orange district. A 450-horsepower 12-cylinder airplane engine drives  
an 8-foot propeller. The engine and propeller are mounted on a 40-foot  
steel tower, the platform of which slowly revolves when the engine is  
running. The spinning blade creates a wind, circulates the cold air that  
always settles close to the ground, and nowhere in a 40 or 50 acre can  
Jack Frost find a quiet spot to lay down his white mantle."

Vitamin A                J. H. Hilton, S. M. Hauge and J. W. Wilbur, Purdue  
in Hays                University Experiment Station, write in the Journal of  
                         Dairy Science (December) on "The Vitamin A Activity of  
Butter Produced by Cows Fed Alfalfa Hay and Soybean Hay Cut in Different  
Stages of Maturity". The summary says: "(1) comparisons were made of  
the vitamin A value of artificially dried and field cured alfalfa and  
soybean hay, cut at two different stages of maturity. Studies were also  
made of the relationship between the vitamin A activity of the hays and  
the butters produced by cows fed these respective hays; (2) artificially  
dried hays were superior in vitamin A value to the corresponding field  
cured hays; (3) hays made from younger plants possessed a higher vitamin  
A value than did hays made from older plants; (4) alfalfa plants contain  
greater vitamin A potency than do soybean plants; (5) dairy cows when fed  
artificially dried hays produced butter of higher vitamin A value than when  
fed field cured hays; (6) artificially dried young alfalfa hay when fed to  
dairy cows produced butter of exceptionally high vitamin A value--45 units  
per gram; (7) soybean hay made from plants after the beans were well formed  
in the pods suppressed the formation of vitamin A in the butter sufficiently  
to produce butter of only medium high vitamin A activity. Soybean hay  
made from young plants and fed to dairy cows did not show this suppressing  
action and produced butter of high vitamin A activity."

Soil Conservation        "Thirty-five thousand pounds of tree seed capable of  
Nurseries                producing one hundred million seedlings has already been  
                         collected by 23 crews of pickers in 9 sections of the  
Northwest," says Better Fruit (December). "Since the uncleaned seed sent  
in is threshing out a higher percent of cleaned seed than was expected,  
no doubt a large part of the Northwest collection will be available for  
use in the Middle West. 'Further encouragement is seen in the fact that  
seed produced in the Northwest is of high quality,' according to Mr.  
Svendby, forester of the Soil Conservation Service, who is working with  
Dr. A. L. Hafenrichter, acting regional nurseryman...Not only is the Soil  
Conservation nurseries program going forward rapidly in seed collection but  
reports from the nursery headquarters at Pullman indicate rapid progress  
in laying out the nursery plots, roads and terraces on the 100 acres to be  
used for the investigation and development of species and strains of plants  
valuable in soil conservation in the Northwest."

**Lumber Production** With production for the current year 75 percent above the depression low of 1932 and with the outlook bright for further substantial gains in 1936, the lumber industry is facing the future with the greatest optimism in many years. Softwood lumber production in the final quarter of 1935 was about 40 percent greater than in the last quarter of 1934 and consumption during the last half of the year was approximately 20 percent above that of the like period of 1934. Output for 1935 will be around 17 1/2 billion feet as compared with the 1932 depression low point of 10 billion feet, a figure that goes back for its approximate equal to 1869. Last year's figure compared with 15 1/2 billion feet in 1934, 14 billion feet in 1933 and 37 billion feet in 1929. (Press.)

**Pea-Canning Method** C. A. Michels, associate agronomist with the University of Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station, has a new process for canning green peas which, he says, preserves the natural color, flavor and vitamin content of green peas and shortens the time of the canning process to one-fifth of that required by present machines. This is the second pea machine invention from Professor Michels in recent months. In June he was granted a patent for a pea husking and splitting machine. All the machinery necessary for the complete operation is enclosed in a sterile container made of rustproof composition. The container is provided with glass windows that enables the operator to view the entire canning process. All the devices in the case are electrically controlled from the outside, the machine in the case being driven from the outside shafts. The sterilization of peas is accomplished in a semi-vacuum rotating apparatus. The peas pass through the sterilizer in a continuous stream into sterile cans. This is the central feature of the machine. The peas are quickly sterilized individually in contrast to the present method of sterilizing by the canfull. (Western Canner and Packer, December.)

**Surplus Ice Power Used** "A new answer to the ice man's problem has been discovered by a utility company which owns and operates an ice plant in Pethany, Oklahoma," says Business Week (December 21). "Declining ice consumption left the company with a perfectly good 420-horsepower diesel-electric generator installation, although even hot weather demand could be met by about 100 horsepower. The company got an REA loan of \$30,000 to build a 30-mile electric distribution line. Hooked to the line will be the surplus power capacity and 155 customers. With only 3 percent interest and 20-year amortization, rates will be low enough to encourage many of the new customers, who will be eligible for REA and EHFA assistance, to install electric refrigeration."

**R.R. Delivery Service** The recently announced plan of western trunk railroads operating out of Chicago to institute free pickup and delivery service was augmented recently when southwest trunk lines agreed to a similar plan. The territory embraced by the proposed plan comprises all states west of the Illinois-Indiana state line to the inter-mountain region and from the Canadian border to the Gulf of Mexico. Tariffs have been filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission, which is expected shortly to give a favorable decision on the scheme. (Press.)

Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

December 23--Livestock at Chicago (Closing Quotations): Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice 9.50-13.75; cows good 5.75-6.75; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice 8.00-10.25; vealers good and choice 8.50-11.00; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good and choice 7.25-8.50; Hogs; 160-200 lbs good and choice 9.45-9.75; 200-250 lbs good and choice 9.45-9.75; 250-350 lbs good and choice 9.15-9.65; slaughter pigs 100-140 lbs good and choice 9.30-9.65. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down 10.80-11.90; feeding lambs range stock good and choice 9.25-10.25.

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Vol. LIX, No. 74

Section 1

December 27, 1935.

## QUESTION

### PROCESSORS

Processors of wheat, cotton, tobacco, milk, cattle and hogs have been called upon to supply data in the Federal Trade Commission's investigation to determine how much of the consumer's dollar reaches the producer, the Washington Post reports. The commission yesterday announced that an interim report had been prepared for Congress. It describes two schedules sent to the manufacturers and processors, one to show where they receive their raw materials and the courses through which they sell or distribute their finished products, the other dealing with the costs and profits of the companies and their capital structures.

## SPAIN GAINS MARKET

The United States and Brazil were eliminated almost entirely from the French citrus fruit markets, the United Press reports from Paris, when France granted Spain a practical monopoly on the orange business. The new grant to Spain is in connection with the Franco-Spanish trade treaty signed in Madrid last week-end.

## PARALYSIS PROTECTION

Discovery at the Rockefeller Institute of nose washes of tannic acid or of sodium alum which protect monkeys from infantile paralysis and are now ready "for trial in man," was reported to the Society of American Bacteriologists at its opening session in New York yesterday, says the Associated Press, which also reports the discovery at Columbia University of a second, entirely different sort of infantile paralysis preventive found in vitamin C which prevented infantile paralysis in monkeys, but under circumstances so peculiar that the vitamin is not yet ready for trial on children. The Washington Post also reports that Dr. J. P. Leake of the Public Health Service yesterday issued a warning against vaccination for infantile paralysis and that the New York City health department had stopped vaccinations for protection against the disease.

## PROTECT TRADE PACT

Press reports say that the National Grange and the National Co-operative Milk Producers Association have protested against certain features of the reciprocal trade agreement recently concluded with The Netherlands. The Washington Post quotes Fred Brenckman, Washington representative of the Grange, as saying that the contract with The Netherlands, "makes it clear that the net result will be detrimental to American agriculture."

Dustless Roads      "Fine cooperation between the highway department of for Creameries Kewaunee County, Wisconsin, and cheese factories in the county, is resulting in the elimination of gravel and dust nuisances from roads passing in front of the creameries, which constitute one of the leading industries of the county," reports Fred H. Sorrow in Southern Dairy Products Journal (December). "All gravel and unpaved roads passing by creameries have been surfaced with black topping for a distance of from 200 to 400 feet, depending upon the size of the creamery and its location. This effectively eliminates dust and dirt, and is a precedent to be recommended to the highway departments in creamery counties throughout the United States."

Consumer      Ruth O'Brien, chief, Division of Textiles and Clothing, Education      Bureau of Home Economics, is author of "Why Consumer Education?" an address printed in National Consumer News (December 10). An editorial note says: "Miss Ruth O'Brien is a leading proponent for consumer education. She knows from practical experience how important it is for consumers to know how to buy and what to buy, and she is active in letting her powerful arguments in support of the 'informed consumer' be known. The accompanying article by Miss O'Brien calls for no casual reading. It should be studied as an important and guiding document, and as a source of help and encouragement in the vital work with which consumers are now engaged for their protection."

Farm Interest      About 400,000 farmers with first and second mortgage Payments      land bank commissioner's loans made under the emergency refinancing program of the past two and a half years had virtually 85 percent of their matured installments paid up to date on November 30, according to A. S. Goss, land bank commissioner of the Farm Credit Administration. Interest installments matured on \$785,000,000 of loans amounted to almost \$40,000,000 to the end of November of which over \$34,000,000 had been paid, compared to \$6,700,000 matured to November 30, 1934, and \$5,500,000 paid at that time. "Although the total amount of interest maturities on those loans this year has been about five times greater than last year, farmers have substantially improved their payment record," Goss said. (FCA, No. 7-95.)

British      The British Columbia government is planning to go ahead Columbia      with an extensive program of research into wood utilization Forestry      next year in cooperation with the University of British Columbia which has already conducted valuable laboratory work in connection with pulp and newsprint processes. Experiments will be made chiefly in connection with the manufacture of various forms of paper board for which many British Columbia woods are believed to be suitable. Financing of this research will be provided at the next session of the legislation, according to Hon. Wells Gray, minister of lands. Chief handicap in wood utilization at present lies in marketing. British Columbia could, for instance, produce large quantities of turpentine but a sales outlet is lacking. A more ready market for paper board and other construction material is anticipated. (Pacific Pulp & Paper Industry, December.)

Erosion in                   Lester H. Hartwig, under the title "Lost: 50,000 Acres" History :           in the American Mercury (January) says in part: "The origin of erosion in any given locality does not antedate the appearance of the white man, because the American Indian did not have the desire or the means for greatly altering the face of Nature. Aside from the vegetable patches tilled by Indian women, the entire land area was covered with grass or forest, efficient in holding the soil. Erosion, in the immensity which we now know it, was absent...Erosion is not new in the world's history. The ancient Mayan civilization, whose people understood astronomy, architecture, and the arts, is thought to have perished because the hillsides surrounding the villages were cleared for cultivation, the resultant erosion filling the lakes with debris and making of them breeding places for mosquitoes carrying malaria and yellow fever germs. China, too, has its harsh example of what happens when timber and soil resources are ruthlessly exploited. The Yellow River and the Yellow Sea were so named because of the silt which they removed from the once-fertile watersheds of north China, lands where the natives now eke out the barest existence." The leading article in this issue of the Mercury is "The South Faces Disaster," by Oliver Carlson.

British                   "The pigs marketing scheme (in England) has had more Pig Scheme           than one anxious moment since it was first conceived," says Country Life (London) for December 14. "The new contract that has been arranged between producers and curers is not one that is stimulating the same enthusiasm as some of the earlier ones. Each year new snags are met with, and the elimination of these in turn brings forward still more fresh problems. Farmers are naturally a long-suffering community, and they are not unduly alarmed when threats are used against them. Threats do seem to be the common policy associated with the pigs scheme, for there are more interests than one implicated. It is unfortunate, however, that agriculturists have to be reminded of the folly of not falling in with the operations of the pigs scheme, which, despite the legitimate criticism that can be urged against it, represents one of the certain bulwarks against a downward slide in pig prices. The real truth, however, is that only a relatively small number of farmers have realized the fact that pigs can be profitable even at the scheme prices if they are subjected to specialization. The pig scheme can never be of much assistance to the pig speculator. It is rather a steadying factor that will encourage a steady return to the individual who set himself to study pig production as most producers now study milk production..."

Taxes and                   Tax collections in the United States now represent Incomes           about 20 percent of the national income, according to estimates made by the National Industrial Conference Board. The corresponding ratio for the United Kingdom is about 25 percent; for Germany, about 23 percent; and for France between 20 and 25 percent. Such comparisons, it is pointed out, do not furnish an accurate picture of relative tax burdens, since all estimates of national income are only general approximations and the concepts used by statisticians in the several countries differ. (Press.)

Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

December 26--Livestock at Chicago (Closing Quotations): Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice 9.50-13.75; cows good 5.75-6.75; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice 8.00-10.25; vealers good and choice 9.00-11.50; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good and choice 7.25-8.50. Hogs: 160-200 lbs good and choice 9.95-10.20; 200-250 lbs good and choice 9.70-10.20; 250-350 lbs good and choice 9.45-10.00; slaughter pigs 100-140 lbs good and choice 9.65-10.10. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down 10.60-11.75; feeding lambs range stock good and choice 9.25-10.25.

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. 123 7/8-125 7/8; No. 2 D. No.Spr.\*Minneap. 119 7/8-121 7/8; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap. 99 $\frac{1}{4}$ -103 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; No. 1 Durum, Duluth, 107 $\frac{1}{4}$ -118 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; No. 2 Hard Winter\*K.C. 109-111 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Chi. 114-116 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; No. 2 S.R.Wr. St. Louis 109 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 85 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ -51; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 61 $\frac{3}{4}$ -63; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 57 $\frac{3}{4}$ -58 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; St. Louis 57-58; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 25 $\frac{3}{4}$ -26 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; K.C. 27-28 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Chi. 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ -30; St. Louis 28-30; No. 1 malting barley, Minneap. 68-70; No. 3 good malting, Minneap. 55-62; No. 2, Minneap. 38-39; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. 182 $\frac{1}{4}$ -187 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.50-\$1.75 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.10 f.o.b. Presque Isle. New York Danish type cabbage \$20-\$22 bulk per ton in New York; \$13-\$15 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$1.10-\$1.50 per  $\frac{1}{2}$ -lettuce crate in city markets; 75¢-90¢ f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley Points. South Carolina Pointed type \$1.12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.25 per 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bushel hamper in the East. East Shore Maryland and Delaware Jersey type sweet potatoes brought 85¢-\$1.15 per bushel basket in terminal markets. Tennessee Nancy Halls 80¢-90¢ per hamper in the Middle West. New York Yellow Varieties of onions brought 90¢-\$1.20 per 50-pound sack in eastern cities; \$1.07-\$1.10 f.o.b. Rochester. Midwestern stock 80¢-\$1.10 in consuming centers; 90¢-95¢ f.o.b. West Michigan Points. New York U.S. #1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  inch minimum, McIntosh apples \$1.25-\$1.50; and Baldwins \$1-\$1.12 $\frac{1}{2}$  per bushel basket in New York City.

Average price of Middling 7/8 inch cotton in 10 designated markets declined 6 points from the previous close to 11.61 cents per pound. On the same day last year, the price was 12.56 cents. January futures contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 4 points from the previous close to 11.56 cents; and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 6 points to 11.51 cents.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 34 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; 91 Score, 34 cents; 90 Score, 33 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: S.Daisies, 18-18 $\frac{1}{4}$  cents; Y.Americas, 18 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 28-30 cents; Standards, 27-27 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; Firsts, 25-26 cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.

# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LIX, No. 75

Section 1

December 28, 1935.

**URGES RURAL ELECTRIFICATION** Morris L. Cooke, rural electrification administrator, appealed to the private utility industry yesterday to establish 100 rural electrification "proving grounds" as a comprehensive test of modern practices and as a basis for study and comparison. Cooke asked that "intensive farm electrification" be promoted. He pointed out that 80 percent of industry is electrified, but only 3 percent of the power used on farms is derived from electricity. Cooke said that "it is anomalous to discover that with some exceptions power executives have not seriously considered the farm market." (Press)

**FEW DUCKS KILLED IN MARYLAND** As the 1935 wild-fowl hunting season drew to a close E. Lee LeCompte, State game warden, estimated that only about 15,000 ducks had been killed during the season, says a Baltimore report to the Washington Star (Dec. 27). This is the lowest number taken in the history of the department. The annual kill, he added, usually is about 100,000. The short season of only 30 days in comparison with the normal 90-day hunting period, and the various factors of the stringent Federal regulations were the principal causes of the small number bagged.

**GREATER CONGO SANCTUARY** Doubling of the size of the vast sanctuary in the Belgian Congo, where game may roam without danger from hunters' guns, to an area exceeding 3,000 square miles, was announced yesterday by Dr. John C. Merriam, president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. The area, known as the Parc National Albert in Africa, was set aside in 1925 by King Albert as a sanctuary for all forms of plant and animal life with express provision forbidding "destruction, capture or pursuit of the gorilla, as well as all forms of hunting this animal." (Washington Post)

**FEWER TRAFFIC DEATHS** The Nation's 1935 traffic deaths were estimated at 35,500 yesterday by the National Safety Council, says an Associated Press report from Chicago. This would represent a 1.4 percent drop -- or 500 human lives -- from 1934's all time high of 36,000. R. L. Forney, the council's chief statistician, predicated his reckoning for the whole of 1935 on the premise that a sharp downward trend evidenced in November would carry through December.

Living Costs William F. Ogburn, University of Chicago, is author of "Does It Cost Less to Live in the South?" in December Social Forces. Quoting data on family budgets of the different sections of the United States, collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, he says: "In conclusion, then, this investigation does not show that it is cheaper to live in the South, but rather that the costs are the same in the South as in the rest of the United States. We infer then that the popular opinion that it is cheaper to live in the South is based upon false comparisons or unsatisfactory concepts. If a laborer spends less in the South than in the North, it is because he gets less wages and not because it costs less to live there."

Consumer Protection "New and greater protection for the consumer will be provided by the Federal Trade Commission if a recommendation made by that body in its annual report is adopted by the Congress," says National Consumer News (December 10). "The commission has urged that the Federal Trade Commission law be amended 'so as to specifically prohibit not only unfair methods of competition in commerce but also unfair and deceptive acts and practices in commerce.' At the present time the consumer is a beneficiary of the activities of the commission when it prohibits trade competition that indirectly and sometimes directly, affects the buying public. 'This recommendation is made in order to give the commission clear jurisdiction over a practice which is unfair or deceptive to the public and is not necessarily unfair to a competitor,' the report says. 'There are times when such a practice is so universal in an industry that the public is primarily injured rather than individual competitors. In such cases it is very difficult, if not impossible, to show injury to competitors, but the injury to the public is manifest.'..."

Petroleum Oil for Soap "...The organic chemists suggest that they can make equivalent (to coconut oil) fatty acids by controlled oxidation of the corresponding hydrocarbons as found in petroleum," says an editorial in Chemical & Metallurgical Engineering (December). "In fact they say that mixtures of hydrocarbons from C<sub>8</sub> to C<sub>12</sub> or from C<sub>10</sub> to C<sub>14</sub> can as a group be so prepared as to be practically equivalent to the coconut-oil fatty acid as far as the soapmaker's requirements are concerned. Experimentation in this field has not gone far enough to give general conviction. But there is no doubt as to the chemical possibility, almost the chemical probability, of such substitution. Many industries of the United States will be interested. Certainly it will be a tremendous chemical engineering achievement if one may take products of petroleum and the widely available corn and cottonseed oils and produce for the soapmaker fatty acids just as satisfactory as those from the much less abundant coconut oil. An element of domestic security would thus be achieved. And possibly a tremendously enlarged outlet for corn and cottonseed oils might also be effected, to the benefit of our own agriculture."

Short-Term Credit A continued demand for short-term credit was the outstanding development of Farm Credit Administration financing during November. Farmers borrowed \$40,300,00 of short-term funds under the FCA compared to about \$36,000,000 in October and about the same amount in November last year. (FCA, No. 7-96.)

Artificial vs. Natural Manures      J. A. Scott Watson, of Oxford, contributes to "Notes on Manuring" in the December issue of the Journal of the Ministry of Agriculture. He says in part: "The idea keeps cropping up that the use of chemical fertilizers is an 'unnatural' expedient used by man to force his crops into 'unnatural' growth, and thus tends to produce 'unnatural' foods that may, in the long run, have harmful effects upon the animals or human beings that consume them. The suggestion is a difficult one to disprove. An interesting experiment that bears on the broad general question has recently been reported from the Veterinary Physiological Institute of the University of Leipzig. Two groups of rats were fed, for six successive generations, upon diets corresponding closely to an ordinary mixed human diet, the only difference being that for Group V all the constituents of the ration had been produced with the use of chemical fertilizers, while for Group U the ingredients had all been produced without resort to artificials. For instance, the one group had beef from cattle fed on intensively manured pasture, while the other had the meat of cattle that had never consumed fodder grown with artificials. The diet was a good and very mixed one, including cereals (oats, barley and rye), vegetables (lettuce, spinach, cabbage, beans, peas, carrots, celery, tomatoes and potatoes), meat and milk.....the differences were all in favour of Group V (artificials). The V-group rats of the parent generation seemed to be definitely more resistant to disease, and lived longer; of the first-generation progeny, Group V showed better general health, and the females continued to breed to greater ages; and taking all the generations the V group were more prolific and more vigorous. These results should not, of course, be taken as suggesting that artificials are better than animal manures. The real explanation may possibly be that the farmer who uses artificials (in conjunction with dung, etc.) does, upon the whole, arrive at an improved balance of plant nutrients in the soil, and that this results in the production of a plant that, regarded as animal food, has an improved balance of minerals."

Injects Oil Into Roads      "An oversized 'Corn Planter' has been put to work building 'upsidedown' roads for the State of Missouri," says a Jefferson City report to the New York Times (Dec. 27).

"Engineers have come to Jackson County to study County Engineer Alex F. Sachs' idea of building roads from the bottom up with his exaggerated corn planter. In appearance and operation, the machine resembles the corn planter. It injects asphaltic oil into the ground, and this is said to establish a solid base. Under the usual process, the oil is spread on the surface of the road and allowed to penetrate, exactly how far, engineers rarely can be sure. The roadway is graded and shaped; the scarifying machines loosen the soil to a depth of at least six inches and simultaneously inject the bituminous materials at the bottom of the loosened earth. This, say the engineers, gives a base, the primary quality of efficient roadbuilding. Traffic is allowed to pack the soil and the oil soaks to the surface. In three weeks the roadway is reshaped and completed."

Farm Land In Demand      "Brisk activity and an optimistic outlook in farm real estate is indicated" says a release from the Farm Credit Administration, "by figures on 1935 operations.

Over 6400 farms placed on the market were sold by the Federal land banks to farmers and other investors in the first ten months of the year compared to 4900 in all of 1934 and 4100 in 1933. In addition over a thousand part-farms were sold in 1935...."



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Vol. LIX, No. 76

Section 1

December 30, 1935

## VEGETABLE GUMS MADE BY BACTERIA

"A new kind of agriculture, building little ponds of water in which bacteria will make vegetable gums useful in many commercial products, was described Saturday to the Society of American Bacteriologists," reports Howard W. Blakeslee, Associated Press science editor. "...One kind of gum which J. R. Sanborn of Cambridge, Mass., described is costing only 1 cent a pound...An advantage of the bacteria-made gums is a tendency not to dry out...Cellulose-forming bacteria also are good gum makers. The ponds are about 90 percent water. Added as food are wastes such as sulphite liquor, blackstrap molasses, distillery slop, wood residues, vegetable mashes and corn sirup..."

## MEAT PRICES

A decline of from 4 to 11 percent in retail meat prices in the last three months was reported yesterday by William W. Woods, president of the Institute of American Meat Packers. Reviewing the packing industry for the last year, Woods said the hog shortage last summer changed the nation's 1933 meat-eating habits. "It is estimated," Woods said, "that each individual ate about 47 pounds of pork in 1935, as compared with almost 68 pounds in the preceding year..."

## ENGINE RUNS BY SUN'S RAYS

A new steam engine which uses the sun's rays to produce cheap power was demonstrated yesterday to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, says a St. Louis report by the Associated Press. The machine consists principally of a concave mirror made of aluminum, which focuses light falling upon it into a vacuum tube. Inside the vacuum tube is a second tube, through which flows a black liquid, chlorodiphenyl, which is heated to its boiling point of 188 degrees F. by the rays and moves up the inclined tube to deliver its boiling energy in a reservoir at the top.

## HEAVY INDUSTRIES IMPROVE

Sustained improvement in the last half of this year has begun to register results in the way of increased employment on private rolls. Recent gains in employment, as recorded by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, have been concentrated largely in industries turning out so-called "durable goods" for consumers and producers--like factory machinery, farm implements, automobiles, trucks, electric refrigerators, stoves and office appliances. (A.P.)

Science "A few years ago, science was not news," writes  
In The News Chester H. Rowell, Editor of the San Francisco Chronicle,  
in Editor and Publisher (Dec. 21), "except when it  
blossomed out in some spectacular invention that we could ride on, eat or  
wear, or sell for money. Now science itself has become news and people  
have curiosity about it. Curiously enough, the farther away the  
scientific fact is the better people like it. The two most interesting  
sciences are archaeology, which digs up things thousands of years old,  
and astronomy, which reveals things perhaps millions of light-miles away.  
Perhaps this is because science has taken the place in the imagination of  
many people once occupied by religion. In the days when life was narrow-  
er, each person knew his own neighborhood and his own particular doctrine  
of the nature of the Infinite and Eternity, and hardly anything between  
these extremes. Perhaps there is something of the same attitude still  
which makes the news of today's prizefight and of the excavations at Ur of  
the Chaldees interesting but the crisis in Europe 'highbrow.' Anyhow, if  
we are going to print scientific news why not print it right? Not per-  
haps in the Sunday magazine pages. There the tradition of fantastic  
speculation is too firmly rooted. The question is not what has been dis-  
covered, but what somebody who knows nothing about it imagines might come  
of it. Let the Sunday magazine indulge in that if it likes. Also, the  
various strictly scientific services are doing very good work and what  
comes from them is likely to be both popular and sound. But it is not too  
much to say that much of the incidental scientific news which comes over  
the wires or across our city desks would give the horrors to anyone who  
had had a course in general science in the freshman year in high school  
and still retained some fraction of that knowledge. It is neither neces-  
sary nor possible for every copyreader to be a scientist. But there  
ought to be some one somewhere, along the line from the original inter-  
view with the scientist to the proofreader, who had at least an amateur  
and popular knowledge of what it was all about."

Botanical The Botanical Review (Dec.) includes two articles:  
Review The Cytology of Cereals, by Hannah C. Aase, State College  
of Washington; and The Relation of Weather to Fungous and  
Bacterial Diseases, by C. E. Foister of the Department of Agriculture for  
Scotland, who says in conclusion: "The vast complexity of this subject  
indicates that more and more it will be imperative that the plant disease  
complex should not be investigated from the narrower view of the immediate  
cause. Teams, working in close combination and consisting of mycologist,  
pathologist, geneticist, physiologist, statistician, etc., will have better  
chances of elucidating the work which remains to be done than isolated  
mycologists."

Power The leading article in the Monthly Bulletin of  
Farming Agricultural Science and Practice (International Institute  
of Agriculture, Rome, November) is on "The Mechanisation of  
Agriculture and Wheat Growing Throughout The World." One sentence says,  
"With their innate technical talent, the Americans of the United States  
have been the forerunners in the construction of many agricultural  
machines which has resulted in the development of an industry for agri-  
cultural machinery that far surpasses that of other countries."

Plan "Is not the time ripe," asks an editorial article in  
 Food The Lancet, (Dec. 7,) "for the initiation of a comprehen-  
 Policy sive national food policy? was the question asked by Sir  
 Gowland Hopkins in his presidential address to the  
 anniversary meeting recently of the Royal Society. That underfeeding and  
 ill-feeding exist he was sure, although he admitted the difficulty of  
 measuring their extent, and after a diligent study of available evidence  
 he was left with the impression that the situation called for further and  
 immediate action. It seems that the Expert Commission on Nutrition,  
 appointed by the League of Nations, which held its first meeting in  
 London recently under the chairmanship of Prof. Edward Mellanby, drew up  
 a list, in order of priority, of the problems for future study at various  
 scientific institutes, with a view to practical progress. This is the  
 first time that nutrition has been dealt with at an international  
 conference by European and American authorities, and the members of  
 the conference will remain in touch with each other through the Health  
 Organisation of the League of Nations. The League of Nations Council  
 has appointed a joint committee for the study of the problem of nutrition,  
 which is to present a general report to the Assembly in 1936, and the  
 report of the London Conference, expected at the end of this week, will  
 be transmitted to this joint committee, whose first meeting will take  
 place early next year."

Vibrated "We referred some months ago," Roads and Road  
 Concrete Construction for December 2, says: "to the possibilities  
 of high frequency vibration as a means of compacting con-  
 crete. It is a subject which is receiving in this country far less  
 attention than it deserves. We hope, therefore, that the article on  
 'Vibrated Concrete,' which appears in this issue, will be read by all who  
 are concerned with the use of concrete in road construction. The author  
 points out that vibration does not in itself increase the strength of  
 concrete; its virtue lies in the fact that, being a more efficient  
 method of compacting than tamping, the wetness of the concrete can be  
 drastically reduced and a corresponding improvement of quality obtained.  
 The advantages are likely to be more marked in roads than in other types  
 of structure because, in addition to resisting compression, the concrete  
 in a road slab must resist the tension induced by shrinkage and super-  
 imposed loading. By using vibrators and reducing the water cement ratio  
 an increase of 50 percent in compressive strength can be obtained under  
 favorable circumstances; and it appears probable that shrinkage strain  
 is reduced and tensile strength increased to a similar extent... Research  
 at the Building Research Station has shown that under normal conditions  
 of loading a sub-grade support, a thickness of no less than 22 inches  
 would be required at the corners of a concrete slab in order to keep the  
 tensile stresses within safe limits. This is, of course, far greater  
 than is normally used in road slabs and demonstrates the need of increas-  
 ing either thickness or tensile strength. Further research will be needed  
 before the effect of vibration is fully understood..."

Eccles On One paragraph from an article, "Road To Stabilized  
 Prosperity Prosperity," by Marriner S. Eccles, in Sphere (Jan.) says:  
 "To preserve our capitalistic system, our institutions and  
 traditions, we must use such governmental means of economic and monetary  
 management as we now possess in achieving a greater stability in the  
 economic order and in creating conditions under which our man power and  
 productive capacity may be utilized to a maximum in the production and the  
 distribution of wealth."

## Section 3

## MARKET QUOTATIONS

December 27--Livestock at Chicago (Closing Quotations): Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice 9.25-13.50; cows good 5.75-6.75; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice 8.00-10.00; vealers good and choice 9.50-12.00; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good and choice 7.25-8.50. Hogs: 160-200 lbs good and choice 9.65-10.10; 200-250 lbs good and choice 9.25-10.00; 250-350 lbs good and choice 8.75-9.75; slaughter pigs 100-140 lbs good and choice 9.50-10.00. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down 10.35-11.65; feeding lambs range stock good and choice 9.25-10.25.

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap.  $122\frac{3}{4}$ - $124\frac{3}{4}$ ; No. 2 D.No.Spr.\*Minneap.  $118\frac{3}{4}$ - $120\frac{3}{4}$ ; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap. 98  $\frac{5}{8}$ -102  $\frac{5}{8}$ ; No. 1 Durum, Duluth, 108  $\frac{5}{8}$ -118  $\frac{5}{8}$ ; No. 2 Hard Winter\*K.C. 109-112; Chi.  $113\frac{1}{4}$ - $117\frac{1}{4}$ ; No. 2 S.R.Wr. St. Louis  $108\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 85; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 50-51; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C.  $61\frac{3}{4}$ -63; No. 3 yellow, Chi.  $56\frac{1}{2}$ -59; St. Louis 59; No. 3 white oats, Minneap.  $25\frac{3}{4}$ - $26\frac{3}{4}$ ; K.C. 27- $28\frac{3}{4}$ ; Chi. 27- $30\frac{1}{4}$ ; St. Louis 29; No. 1 malting barley, Minneap. 68-70; No. 3 good malting, Minneap. 57-63; No. 2, Minneap. 38-39; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap.  $182\frac{3}{4}$ - $188\frac{3}{4}$ .

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(Prepared by BAE)

\* Prices basis ordinary protein.

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Vol. LIX, No. 77

Section 1

December 31, 1935

**TRANSPORTATION CONFERENCES** Joseph B. Eastman, transportation coordinator, yesterday opened the first of a series of conferences at which railroad, truck and shipping interests will seek to thresh out problems and issues arising from the government's movement to regulate motor bus and truck operations as well as the rail lines. Eastman, addressing the meeting, expressed his faith in "face-to-face discussion," and added, "I realize you will be unable to compose all your differences, but you could agree on some which would otherwise result in litigation." (Washington Post.)

**FOREIGN TRADE RESTRICTIONS** President Roosevelt reserved judgment yesterday on whether France shall benefit from reduced tariffs granted The Netherlands by the United States. His action immediately brought speculation as to whether France was being given another chance to remove trade restrictions against American products. Under Secretary Hull's program, tariff concessions granted to one nation are extended to all which do not discriminate against American exports. Up to the present, Germany is the only nation denied such benefits. (A.P.)

**IMMIGRATION EXCLUSION** The State Department estimated yesterday that the immigration laws had excluded from the United States since late 1930 approximately 1,000,000 aliens who might otherwise have been "added to the ranks of the unemployed." Its estimate was made in announcing that immigration visas permitting 38,146 persons to enter the United States were issued during the fiscal year ended last June. This compared with 35,437 previous year and 258,348 fiscal year ended in June 1930. (A.P.)

**WORLD STEEL PRODUCTION** The magazine Steel said yesterday that the world production of steel in 1935 was the highest since 1929. The world production for the year amounted to 96,500,000 gross tons, the magazine said. This was an increase of about 20 percent over the 80,269,000 tons made in 1934 and almost double the 49,721,000 tons of 1932. (A.P.)

**BANK DEPOSIT SURVEY** The Federal Reserve Board completed plans yesterday for a \$500,000 study of the "turnover" in bank deposits between 1928 and 1931. The project, financed from work relief funds, will be carried out in 45 states and the District of Columbia. (A.P.)

Safety and  
Soybeans

"With the 1935 soybean crop almost twice as large as that in 1934, in many rural communities plans are being laid for the erection of soybean extraction plants," says an editorial in Chemical & Metallurgical Engineering (December). "It is most unlikely that all these operations will be carried out under the best chemical engineering auspices. Therefore it is important that the recent warning concerning hazards involved, issued by the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, be brought emphatically to the attention of prospective soybean processors. Not only does soybean extraction require the use of hexane or other flammable solvents, but there is also a dust explosion hazard in the grinding and processing of the beans. Tests conducted by the bureau have shown this danger to be no less than with grain dust. One need recall only a few of the dust explosions of recent years to realize the potential loss of life and property which may follow a general adoption of such processing by inexperienced persons. Undoubtedly the best insurance against serious consequences from a program of this sort lies in the employment of competent engineering advice in the design, construction and operation of projected plants. But since the advice of professional consultants will not be sought in many cases, the bureau's cooperation should be enlisted by projects which otherwise would be inadequately engineered. Where a chemical engineer cannot ethically push his own services, he can at least, knowing of a proposed plant, direct the sponsors to the bureau's chemical engineering division. This course may react to his own advantage; in any event, he will be acting definitely in the public interest."

Farm Women's  
Services

"Leaving churns and kettles for organization meetings in Chicago this month, American farm women have taken an important step in enlarging their service to the country and the world," says the Christian Science Monitor editorially (December 19). "For through their discussions they have given expression to the rural woman's thinking, which is in support of such forward movements as child welfare, adult education, and world cooperation for peace. Despite heavier household tasks, still performed by most farm women without electrical aids, many country homemakers appear to have more time than their city sisters to tune their radios to world affairs and to keep informed on national problems through newspapers and farm magazines. Because they have a viewpoint of their own, rural women have entered enthusiastically into the building up of a special feminine organization and have rejoiced to see its president the first woman member of the board of the American Farm Bureau Federation...Recently Secretary of Labor Perkins appointed Mrs. Abbie C. Sargent, the president of Associated Women of the American Farm Bureau Federation, to an advisory committee in connection with the social security act...Since farm women manage a quarter of the homes of the nation, this is no small addition to the forces of advancement."

## Japan's Exports

Guenther Stein, writing in the New Republic (January 1) on "Will Japan Crack Up? II: The High Cost of Imperialism", says in one paragraph: "The second driving force behind the breathless development of Japanese industry--the amazing increase in exports--has been financed largely out of national losses. For, beneficial though it may have proved for many individual enterprises and even for small groups

of industrial workers, the export boom as a whole must have entailed a heavy national sacrifice. The terms of exchange of Japanese raw silk against the American cotton, which makes up the bulk of the trade between the two countries, will make this point clear. During the period 1921-1927, Japan sold one pound of raw silk against more than 30 pounds of raw cotton, whereas recently she has had to content herself with getting nearly nine pounds of raw cotton for one pound of her raw silk."

#### Tariff Rates

on Bulbs

"Recalling the valiant but futile efforts made by florist interests to prevent the increase in duty rates on tulip, hyacinth, lily and other bulbs imposed by the Hawley-

Smoot tariff act of 1930, it will be interesting to note the reactions to the terms of the reciprocal trade agreement with Holland recently released from Washington," says an editorial in *Florists Exchange* (December 28).

"That there has been careful study of the situation by those responsible for the agreement, and that they have anticipated possible protests from some quarters and sought to formulate adequate explanations of their action in advance, is indicated by the statement released by the State Department in connection with the announcement and quoted in large part in our correspondent's report (in this issue). No reference is made, however, to the obstacle that the increase in tariffs made five years ago raised in the path of retail sales of both flower bulbs for garden planting and cut flowers forced commercially from imported bulbs. The new schedule should help these branches of the business considerably and thereby lend still more impetus to the return of prosperity to the industry. And since the duty on narcissus bulbs is to remain as is, the domestic producers of that stock will continue to receive a measure of economic protection even after the quarantine barrier against competitive foreign stocks is raised in December 1936."

#### "Jumbo"

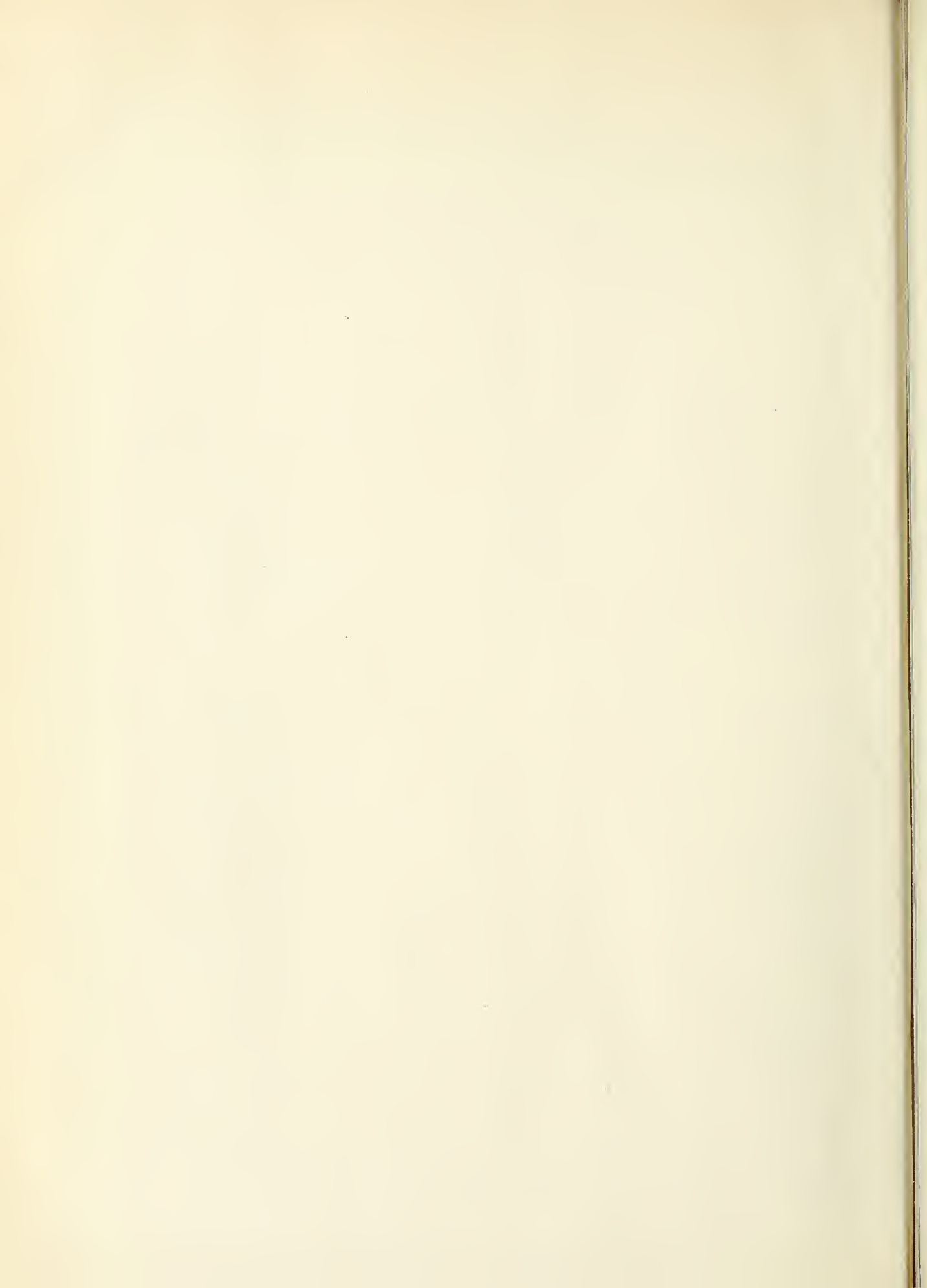
Eggs

"One of the most interesting features of the Pacific Egg Producers Cooperative this season," says the *American Creamery & Poultry Produce Review* editorially (December 18),

"has been the active competitive buying for the moderate daily offerings of Jumbo packs of white eggs. The demand for these has been so insistent that they have commanded anywhere from 5 cents to 11 1/4 cents a dozen more than the top grade of large so-called Blues, which usually weigh net around 46 at 47 pounds to the case...The Pacific Egg Producers Cooperative decided to put up their extra large eggs in a separate pack because their inclusion in the regular packs resulted in a high percentage of breaking and checking of all long eggs. At first they separated out only the double yolkers, but because breakage showed in the extra large single yolked eggs as well, these have been separated and packed in specially constructed large cases with extra high fillers...Certain sections of the Pacific Coast have been breeding up for egg size, just as have some eastern producers, and Washington today is probably producing a larger yield of extra heavies than ever before. Since large numbers of eggs are assembled at central packing plants in the West the extra large can be packed separately with economy...Possibly if New York City ever develops an egg auction for 'all comers', the value of extra large sized eastern eggs will be developed here as it is for the Pacific Coast Jumbos at the Pacific egg auction."

Shafane

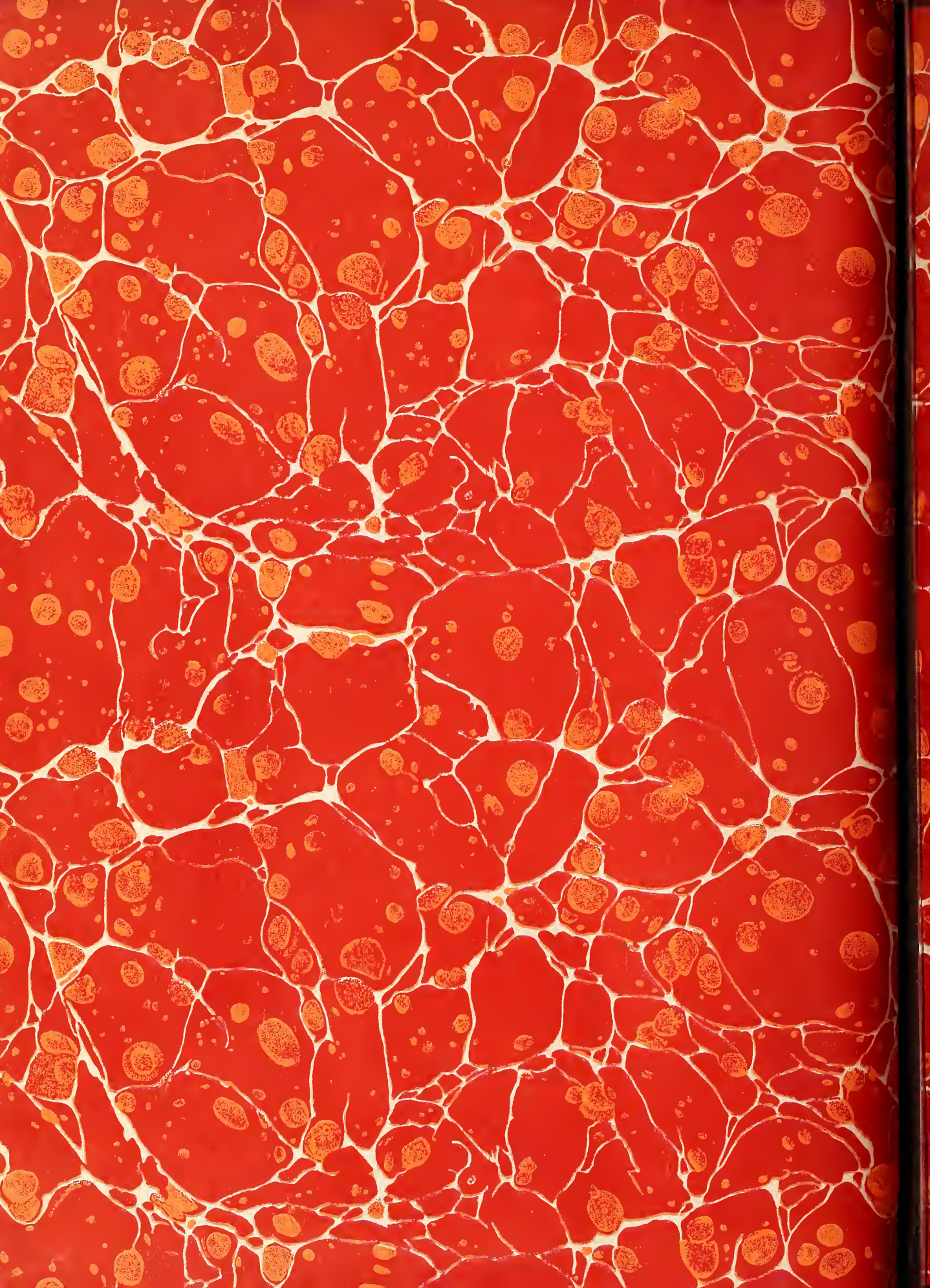












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